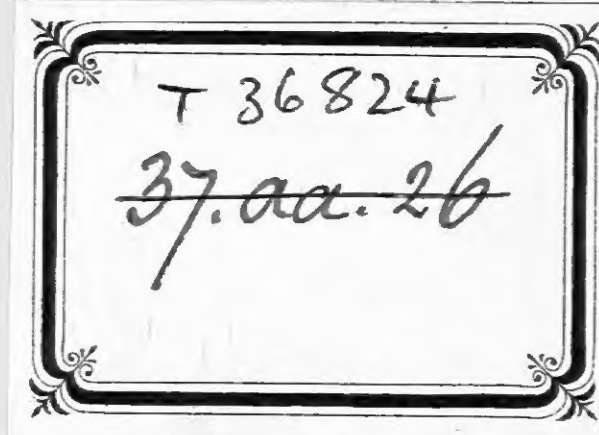
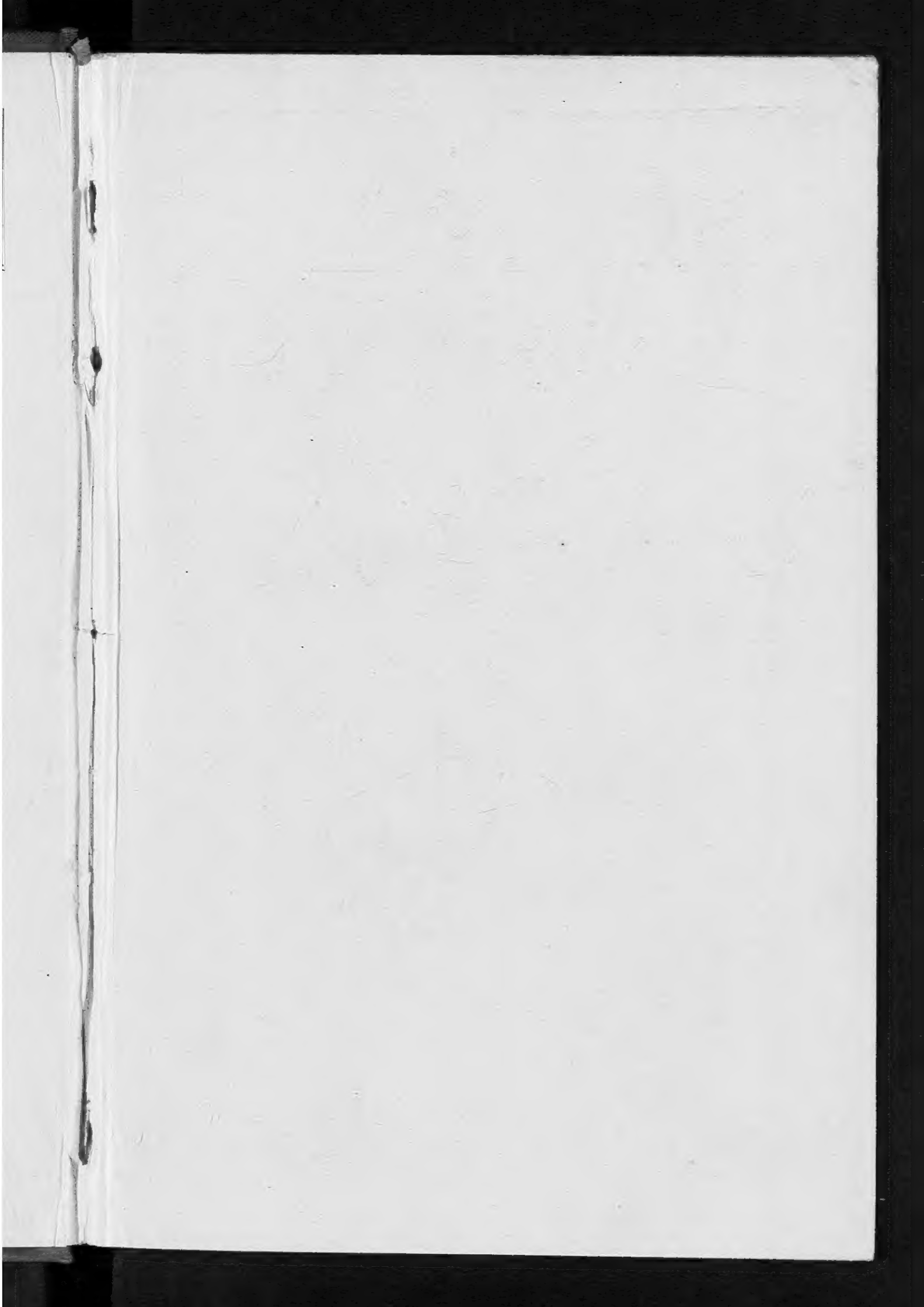
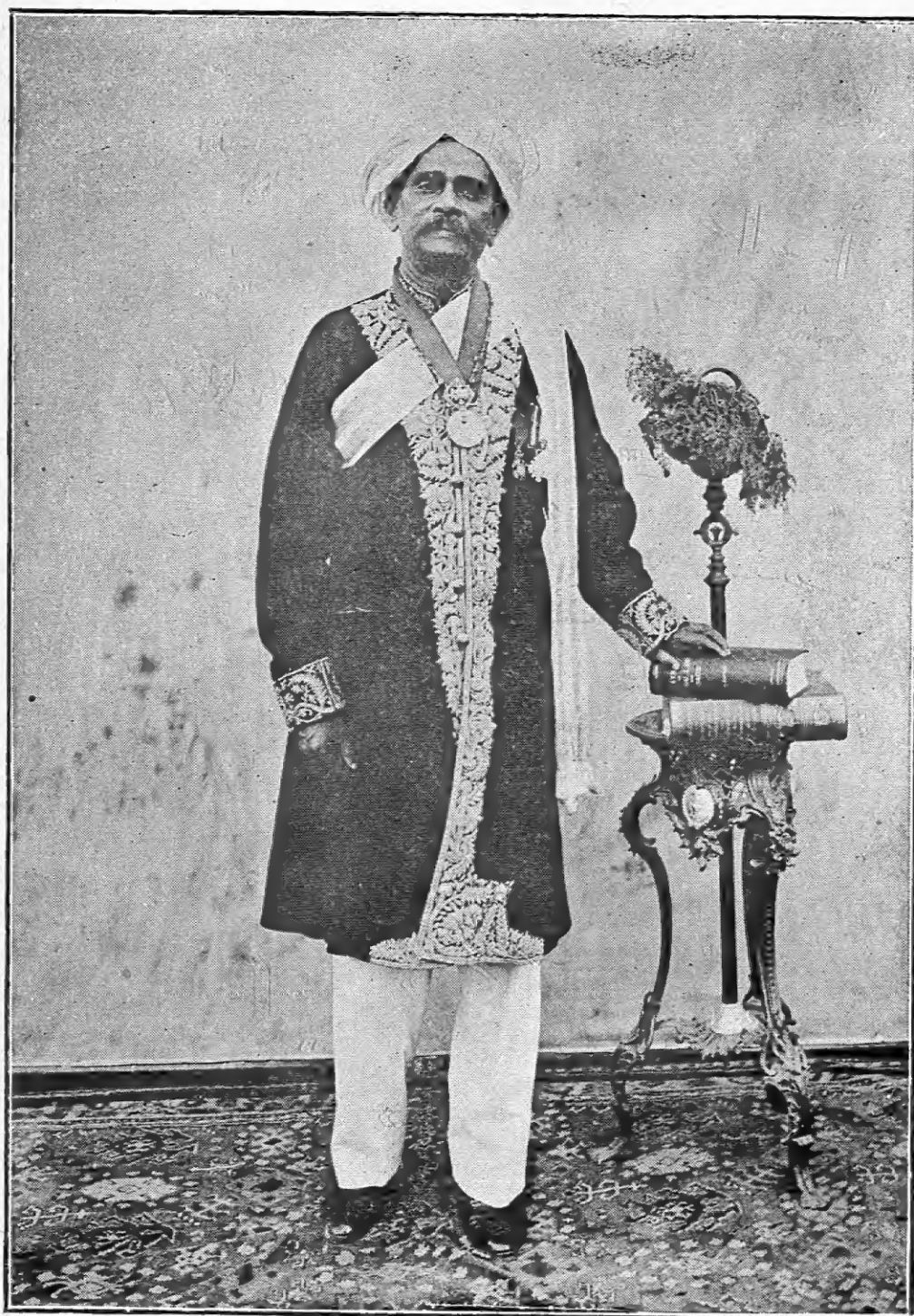


Rāyalu Cetti, T. A brief sketch of the life of Rāja-dharma-
pravīṇa T. R. A. Thambu Chetti, c.i.e., formerly Chief Judge
and Officiating Diwan of Mysore. With a preface by J. Cook,
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C. A. Mumbay Chetty.

Chetty (R., T.)



A

BRIEF SKETCH

OF

THE LIFE

OF

RAJA DHARMA PRAVINA

T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY, C.I.E.,

FORMERLY CHIEF JUDGE AND OFFG. DEWAN OF MYSORE.

[1909?]

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CP 7/4/81		

THIS WORK

IS

BY KIND PERMISSION

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

TO

THE HON'BLE MR. JOHN DAWSON MAYNE,

OF THE INNER TEMPLE,

BARRISTER-AT-LAW,

AND

FORMERLY ADVOCATE-GENERAL OF MADRAS,

AUTHOR OF "A TREATISE ON HINDU LAW & USAGE,"

"A TREATISE ON DAMAGES,"

"THE CRIMINAL LAW OF INDIA,"

ETC., ETC., ETC.

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PREFACE.

A personal friendship of a quarter of a century with the distinguished subject of this biography, and an intimate acquaintance in my capacity as Principal of the Central College, Bangalore, with each of his four sons, two of whom graduated from the College, have been made the grounds of a request that I should write a short Preface to this Memoir. Though conscious of my inability to do justice to the request, I have acceded to it in order to show the great respect which I always entertained for Mr. Thumboo Chetty, both personally as a friend and officially as a subordinate when he held the high offices of a Councillor of the Mysore State, and for a time of Acting Dewan.

Many details given in the biography, especially those of his early life, are quite new to me and have been read with the interest that always attaches to the first steps in the career of one who rose from the lowest to the highest rung of the official ladder, entirely by reason of his personal character for earnestness, uprightness and intellectual acumen of a practical kind.

His inborn simplicity of soul saved him from being oppressed with the self-consciousness that

so painfully and so commonly attaches to high office when attained by those that have similarly risen. At the same time, he had a quiet courteous dignity coupled with a pleasant affability that, arising from his innate integrity of character, evoked all due respect to his position and personality, while it repelled undue familiarity and flippancy.

It is well that such a biography as this should be published. It holds up a light to show the noblest path by which to reach the goal, not of mere personal honour and reward, but of India's greatest good. The motives and methods of action revealed in such a biography are in striking contrast with the morbid and misguided ones so much advocated of late by pseudo-patriots who use the Press—which should be one of the noblest instruments for the education of the nation—as an infernal machine to excite the basest passions of our Indian youth.

He was an ardent advocate of education of a practical kind ; and this is confirmed by his having no fewer than three of his sons educated and graduated in the B.A. course of the Madras University with Physics and Chemistry as their optional branch. His strong common sense instinctively appreciated—what is so often misunderstood as well as misrepresented—the value of a general acquaintance with physical science as an important side of general culture, apart altogether

from any of its manifold specialistic developments. The modern catchword 'Research' is now frequently used in such a way as to imply that a general course of study in science is valueless unless followed up by a specialised study of some part of it, and even by some original discovery in the subject. This appears to me very much like the doctrine that the study of Shakespere and the English poets in our Indian colleges is valueless unless it leads to the production of original poems comparable with the models studied.

The key-note of many of his speeches was the urgent need for the amelioration of the moral and social conditions of the Indian people by the spread of education, and particularly of useful knowledge through the medium of the vernaculars. He held that graduates should utilise their English education by making the knowledge they have already acquired available to their countrymen in the vernaculars, and it is rather a curious commentary on the whole system of our Indian University education that it is almost as necessary to preach this gospel to-day as it was when Mr. Thumboo Chetty expressed these views at the meeting of the Bowring Institute forty years ago.

His views on the value of physical exercise as an essential part of education were very pronounced, and he urged that this should not be confined to the school, but practised at home as well.

The advice which he received from Mr. John D. Mayne on his appointment to the Mysore Service "Do your duty honestly and don't be afraid of any one" was the guiding motto of all his valuable service to the State of Mysore. Clean-handed in all his judicial work, he was regarded by every class and creed with the highest confidence; his judgments were distinguished by their laborious conscientiousness, common sense and impartiality. By the remarkable ingeniousness and independence of his views he inspired the successive European officers under whom he acted with the utmost respect and confidence. His speech as Chairman at a lecture, given by the Rev. Mr. Slater, on famine at the close of the great Mysore famine of 1876-7 shows, in a remarkable manner, the practical common sense view that he took of this as of everything else. He did not scruple to point out the defects of his countrymen. He showed that the ordinary agriculturist is content to draw from the soil just as much as would satisfy only his immediate needs and has, in consequence, nothing stored to meet such a calamity as famine, and his resources are exhausted at its very commencement.

He pointed out that while the population of Mysore had increased from 2 millions in 1801 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ millions in 1857, and to 5 millions in 1871, its land revenues had been for those years 66, 58 and 72 lakhs respectively; so that while the population had

increased in 70 years by 150 per cent., the land revenue had risen by only 10 per cent. He put his finger on the exact seat of the disease—the ryots' indifference to improvement of methods of cultivation, his ignorance of, or inattention to, the value of rotation of crops and adaptation of the articles grown to the nature of the soil, the reduction thereby not only of the quantity produced, but also of the very productiveness of the soil, thus aggravating the impoverished condition of the ryots and rendering them an easy prey to famine.

He laid special stress on the introduction of legislation which should free the ryot from the clutches of the Indian Shylock. He emphasised the need for improving and increasing the material resources of the country, the necessity for the attraction of British capital to extend the cultivation of such products as cotton, mulberry, tobacco, coffee and sugar, the need for the application of machinery to the cultivation of the soil, such as wind-mills for the extension of village irrigation; and he advocated emigration as a means of preventing congestion of population.

His remarks are as applicable and valuable to-day as when they were uttered; and they are in pleasing contrast with the ravings of the boyish rhetoric which are scattered broadcast over the land of India now-a-days to the infinite mischief of the country.

He summarised the whole of his views in the single sentence "Man, with his boasted knowledge of science, could not withstand the will of Providence; but, God willing, he might, by means of reason, skill and energy, devise means to avert famine, or at least to mitigate its severity."

Though not a Native of Mysore, and though an alien in his religious beliefs—being a Roman Catholic—he was so universally trusted for his soundness of judgment and probity that no commission appointed for practical purposes was complete without Mr. Thumboo Chetty as one of its most prominent members. Yet this was not due to his thrusting himself forward. No one was less guilty of this. For though he might have aspired to the Dewanship on the death of Mr. Runga Charlu in January 1883, he was one of the first to congratulate Mr. Sheshadri Iyer on his appointment; and he remained a staunch supporter of that distinguished statesman during the whole of his long tenure of that high office.

J. COOK, M.A., F.R.S.E.,
Retired Principal,
Central College,
Bangalore.

PORT SAID, }
22nd May 1908. }

INTRODUCTION.

I HAVE compiled, out of fragments of materials placed at my disposal, the following brief sketch of the life of my late father Raja Dharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., for whom, at his birth, was fondly predicted a career of future usefulness to others and honour and happiness to himself. To what extent that prediction has been realised must be left to the judgment of the readers to determine.

Whatever may be the merits or demerits of this compilation, I have, at the request of many of my father's friends, taken the liberty of giving publicity to it, in the hope that the many topics and great variety of subjects treated of therein will not be found to be altogether uninteresting, illustrating as they do the vicissitudes of a life which extended for a period of more than six and a half decades.

If this work includes any matter, remark or sentiments to which exception might reasonably be taken, I crave the indulgence of the readers whose candid criticism will be for the good of the public.

In view of the fact that the major portion of my father's public career was in the Judicial line, and that the foundations for his legal attainments were laid by that eminent Jurist, the Hon'ble Mr. John Dawson Mayne, of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law, formerly Officiating Advocate-General of Madras, and Author of "A Treatise on Hindu Law and Usage," "A Treatise on Damages," "The Criminal Law of India," etc., whose esteemed pupil my father had the good fortune to be, I have thought it fit to dedicate this work to him.

My special thanks are due to Mr. T. Ramakrishna Pillay, B.A., Deputy Manager, Appellate Side, High Court of Madras, and to Mr. P.G. D'Souza, B.A., B.L., Under Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, both of whom greatly helped me in my compilation and very kindly revised the proofs for me.

'RUGBY HALL,'

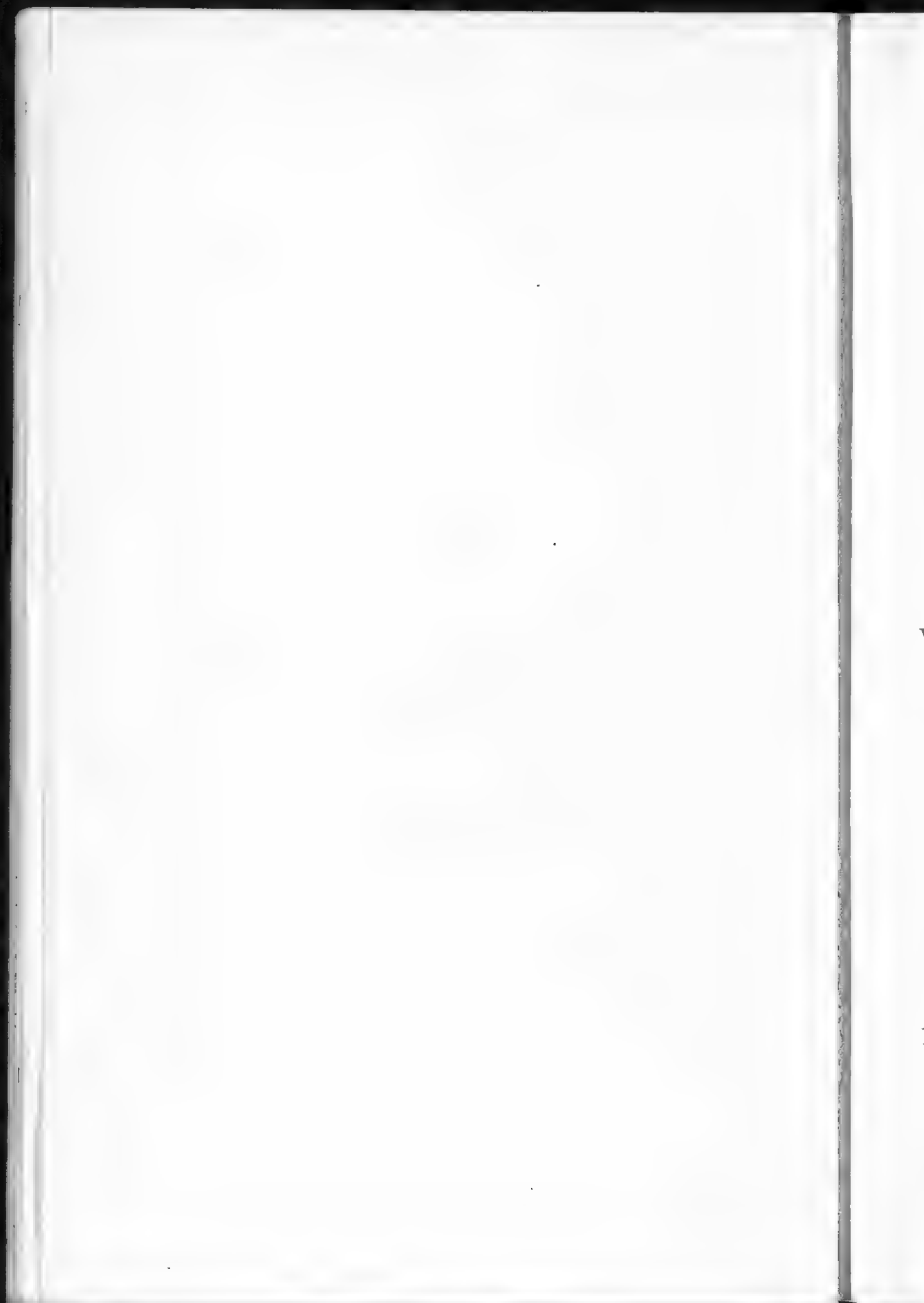
BANGALORE,

T. ROYALOO CHETTY.

1st December 1909.

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1. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, in his uniform as Dewan or Prime Minister of Mysore.
2. Mrs. Thumboo Chetty.
3. The Honorable Mr. John Dawson Mayne.
4. The Honorable Mr. Justice J. R. Kindersley.
5. The Honorable Mr. L. B. Bowring, C.S.I.
6. His Highness Sri Kishnaraja Wadiar, G.C.S.I.
7. General Sir Richard Meade, K.C.S.I.
8. Colonel Tredway, G. Clarke.
9. Mr. Thumboo Chetty as District and Sessions Judge, Nundidroog Division.
10. Mr. Thumboo Chetty as Senior Member of Council in Mysore.
11. His Highness Sri Chamarajendra Wadiar, G.C.S.I.
12. Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer, K.C.S.I.
13. Mrs. Thumboo Chetty.
14. Sir William Lee Warner, K.C.S.I.
15. Mr. John Cook, M.A., F.R.S.E.
16. Mr. Thumboo Chetty in his Judicial robes as Chief Judge of Mysore.
17. His Highness Sri Kishnarajendra Wadiar, G.C.S.I.



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A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE LIFE
OF
RAJA DHARMA PRAVINA
T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY, C.I.E.

CHAPTER I.

BIRTH AND PARENTAGE—EARLY EDUCATION.

MR. THUMBOO CHETTY was born of Catholic parents in April 1837. His father, Desayi Royalu Chetti Garu, was the head of his caste. He was an honourable and upright man, well versed in accounts and highly respected by the Native Christian community in Madras. His mother, whose maiden name was Kitheri Ummah (or Catherine), was a woman of great piety; mildness, courtesy and serenity marked her life; and to her care and prayers in his tender years, Thumboo owed the correction of the froward propensities peculiar to childhood. He was the sixth child in his family; he had three elder sisters and one younger brother and a sister, all of whom lived long enough to see his progress and advancement and to realise the prediction of his beloved

mother made at his birth, namely, "*The sixth, being male, will rise to be a great man and rule over people.*" He had, however, the misfortune to lose both his parents at the very early age of twelve, but he was brought up, with great care and attention, by no less than five executors (to whom the probate of his mother's Will was granted by the Madras High Court), the principal of whom afterwards became his father-in-law.

No one ever crept into the pial school more unwillingly than little Thumboo. His reluctance was due to the great pain caused to his forefinger with which he had to write on coarse sand—for that was the very first method adopted to make children learn to write—the wooden-slate and *balpa* (chalk), the palmyra leaf and the pointed iron *stylus* being introduced at a later stage into the pial schools. Thumboo was a special favourite with his pial schoolmaster, because the latter was paid handsomely and received weekly presents in the shape of grain, oil, etc., in much larger quantities than what Thumboo's schoolmates were able to contribute. In a pial school, the knowledge imparted was, no doubt, limited, but Thumboo acquired in it a fair amount of knowledge in his mother tongue, as well as the habit of ready and impressive delivery. In that school, there was also a certain amount of moral and religious teaching inculcated, calculated to produce in the minds of the youth pious feelings and correct morals, and

who can say that young Thumboo had not profited by such teaching? Gifted with a graceful figure and action, a clear and powerful voice, he used to repeat, with singular facility, the stanzas of that celebrated sage, Vemana, whose *Sathakam* may be regarded as a book of Indian wisdom, not inferior in excellence to Solomon's Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. Thumboo's home was one in which the precepts and counsels of the Christian Gospel were scrupulously attended to, so that he was trained in those practices of piety and virtue, which afterwards developed themselves remarkably in his life.

Ample provision was made, out of family funds, for giving Thumboo, after leaving the pial school, a sound and liberal education in English, and he received his early English education in that celebrated school, known as 'The Free Church Mission Institution,' and which is now familiar to us as the Madras Christian College, situated close to that picturesque part of the city of Madras, where, on one side, are the attractive charms of the sea and the shore. His advent to this school was under very favourable circumstances. He had the double advantage of receiving instruction both at school and at home, as one of his teachers, who was residing in a street which was close to his own, was able to assist and prepare him every morning for his studies in school. Thumboo had always a grateful remembrance of the unwearied care and attention bestowed on him by the original founders

of the institution, Rev. John Anderson, Rev. W. Johnson and Rev. J. Braidwood, M.A., and their assistants, Rev. P. Rajagopaul, Rev. A. Venkata-ramiah and Rev. Ethirajulu who worked hard in imparting instruction to those who were anxious to undergo a course of sound and liberal education. In those days, there was less of cramming and more of genuine mental training. The weekly examinations in each class, the weekly debates on general subjects and the delivery of lectures were so punctually enforced, that there was great emulation among the students, and each student strained every nerve and faculty with a view to distinguish himself. Young Thumboo displayed a good deal of quickness as a student, which was considered promising, and he had also a talent for readily committing to memory what he had read, and reciting the same with ease and precision and in an attractive voice, for which he repeatedly received honourable mention. He was fond of reading select novels and evinced a great taste for poetical works. In Euclid, he invariably maintained the first place in his class. In the weekly examinations and debating classes, he took a prominent part. After eight years of hard study, Thumboo completed his scholastic career. It may not be uninteresting to give here a brief summary of what Thumboo read in his school days. The best works on English Grammar taught at that time were those of Lennie and Murray, including exercises and a key. Particular attention was paid to

induce Thumboo to commit to memory the Latin and Greek roots contained in a small book which was full of useful information. The study of Grammar was followed by that of Rhetoric, and the next book adopted was Campbell's Philosophy of Rhetoric. Dr. Watts' work on logic was studied, as also the history of the Human Understanding in all its varied operations. The science of numbers was studied with eagerness, Bonny Castle's Arithmetic forming the guide. Simpson's Euclid and Bonny Castle's Introduction to Mensuration and Practical Geometry, which were then held in the highest estimation, formed Thumboo's favourite class books. Clift's Geography and Bonny Castle's Astronomy were in the hands of every young student in those days. A general knowledge of Ancient and Modern History was acquired by studying Marshman's Brief Survey of General History, Goldsmith's History of Rome, Morrell's History, including those of Greece, Rome and England, and also Macaulay's, Murray's and Tytler's Histories, and the lives of the twelve Cæsars. Natural Philosophy was but imperfectly taught from Goldsmith's book. Biblical literature was taught to a wide extent. The books which were Thumboo's favourites out of school hours were Robinson Crusoe, Pilgrim's Progress, Arabian, Chinese and Peruvian Tales, Adventures of Telemachus, Liguori's works, Cardinal Wiseman's Controversial Lectures, History of the Jews by Josephus, Robertson's historical works, the stories

of Gil Blas, Belisarius, etc. Thumboo had acquired a fund of knowledge above that of the average young man, and, although he belonged to the old school before the Indian Universities were established, yet he was of a superior mental calibre and the tone of his feelings was modern. While in the highest class and before leaving school, Thumboo received the first prize for general proficiency at the annual distribution of prizes held in 1854 under the presidency of His Excellency Lord Harris, the then Governor of Madras. He was then a good-looking youth, a boon companion and

"Flushed with a purple grace

He showed his honest face."

Young as he was, he took the part of a moral censor, and contributed short notes and articles to the local newspapers, such as *The Crescent*, *Circulator*, *Rising Sun*, *The General Advertiser*, etc., on such subjects as 'Sanitation,' 'Female Education,' 'Evils of early marriage,' etc. He impressed with great force the necessity for the great moral reformation of his countrymen. This was one of the chief topics of discussion in the debating societies of the day in which he took an active part, always maintaining that the present system of education was wanting in one important respect, namely, that it was not commensurate with the moral wants of the people, and that greater attention should be paid to moral reformation. He

advocated the admission of pupils of all castes and creeds into public schools, taking exception to the exclusion of the non-caste in a certain Hindu institution. He deplored the want of an enlightened public opinion in the Indian Press and suggested improvement. In order to form a fair estimate of the merits of the Indian newspapers, Thumboo Chetty used to compare them with some of the English newspapers, to a few of which he was subscribing—*The Illustrated London News*, *The Dublin Review*, *The Family Herald*, *The Lamp*, etc. The following extract from a letter he wrote, on 1st March 1851, to his intimate friend and neighbour, Kondasawmi Naidu, contained his sentiments regarding the Press in India:—

I am of opinion that, while in England, even an insinuation against personal honour was intolerable, in India this precaution is lost sight of not unfrequently. Strong words take the place of strong arguments, and, even when dealing with important questions of public interest, there is often wanting that sound and lucid argument which ought to have been brought to bear on such questions. Newspapers in India are now so cheap that it is easy to procure a set of types and start a journal with a fair prospect of success. Very great improvement is needed to gain public confidence which is the corner stone of public honour.

CHAPTER II.

PRELIMINARY MERCANTILE TRAINING AND ENTRY INTO PUBLIC SERVICE.

Quartermaster-General's Office.

When school-life was over, Thumboo was quite undecided as to the choice of a profession in life. He was almost inclined to enter the Catholic Monastery at Pondicherry and to prepare for the priesthood. A little knowledge of French and Latin which he had acquired tempted his thoughts in this direction. His chief guardian was, however, bent upon giving his eldest daughter in marriage to him. After much deliberation and anxious thought, and finally acting under the advice of his spiritual director (Father Felix Fernandes, a priest remarkable for his zeal and piety), Thumboo abandoned the idea of priesthood and postponed for a time the consideration of the question of marriage. Thumboo, after labouring for a while under a good deal of uncertainty of mind, entered as an apprentice in the then well-known Firm of Messrs. Griffiths & Co., where his revered father served as the Chief Book-keeper. A year's training in this firm gave him an insight into commercial business and a knowledge of the system of keeping accounts by single and double entry.

In those days the two accomplishments essential for a clerkship were—

(a) plain, legible and lineal hand which may be read with ease and which may be viewed with pleasure to the eye ; and

(b) a tolerable knowledge of accounts.

Thumboo, like his father, wrote a fair hand and he was also a very good accountant. A firm was opened at Bangalore by Messrs. Griffiths & Co., and Thumboo was specially entrusted with the audit of the accounts of this branch ; but he was not destined long to remain a merchant's clerk. In December 1855, three vacancies for clerkships in the office of the Quartermaster-General of the Madras Army were advertised, and out of about 150 candidates Thumboo Chetty, after undergoing a departmental competitive examination in precis-writing, composition, etc., was appointed clerk. He rapidly rose, in the course of four or five years, to be the cashkeeper and indexer of the office. He received excellent testimonials from the military officers under whom he served. Colonel F. A. Reid, Quartermaster-General, remarked that Thumboo Chetty was "extremely well educated and deserved advancement." General F. H. Scott certified that "there was no work in the office which was given to Thumboo Chetty which he did not do well"; and, on 10th May 1866, when

leaving Madras for England, he wrote to Thumboo Chetty a kind letter which concluded thus :—

I wish you heartily every success. I shall be going home, I think, at the end of the year. But I shall remember you as one of the best, if not the best, Government servants I ever saw. Continue as you have begun, and you will rise as high as a native can rise.

Another Officer, Capt. J. A. Shuldham, wrote of Thumboo Chetty as follows :—

If I am justified in granting a separate testimonial to any clerk in the office, I would desire, on my leaving it, to place on record the very high opinion I entertain of the capacity, trustworthiness and usefulness of Thumboo Chetty. Through his indefatigable exertions and unwearied industry, long arrears of Hutting papers were disposed of; and in all the various other branches of the office his talents and painstaking were equally conspicuous.

With pleasure, affection and gratitude, Thumboo Chetty remembered those who spoke so well of him and to whose good testimony he owed his advancement.

CHAPTER III.

MARRIAGE.

While in the Quartermaster-General's office Thumboo Chetty was still unmarried. In a tropical climate like India, where the development of the sexes is wonderfully precocious, parents or those who act in their stead generally hasten to get their children married as early as possible; but

Thumboo Chetty, who had already depicted in true colours the evils of early marriage, withstood all persuasion and was determined to show that example was better than precept. He put off marrying for about five years after attaining his majority, meanwhile pondering over the subject and praying to Heaven to help him in arriving at such a choice as would prove a blessing of no common value. It was in August 1859 that an indirect attempt was made by one of his intimate friends to induce Thumboo to marry, but the reply he gave to his friend was as follows :—

I am glad you have become a married man ; but I cannot easily decide about myself. Permit me, therefore, to make known to you my views frankly. I would like to put off marriage for a time. What troubles me is as to the person who is to be my future darling and companion in life. I am convinced of what I have read in an excellent book that no woman, whatever her rank in life may be, can make me happy, unless she is pious and virtuous. She may be beautiful, have acquired many fine accomplishments and possess great wealth ; but if she be without religion, she cannot be a proper 'helpmeet' to me: Eve led Adam astray ; a woman betrayed Samson ; and when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods. Such considerations as these induce me to seriously regard the following rules in the choice of a wife:—

' Choose a woman—

Of good health and a sound constitution ;

Of a good understanding and common sense ;

Of a sweet and amiable natural temper, accustomed to domestic duties ;

Of regular habits ;

Of an honest family ; but especially of decided piety.'

The foregoing quotation does not include beauty and wealth, for beauty fades away and riches certainly take to themselves wings ; but if the woman has both with the other qualifications, so much the better.

The above is a practical piece of advice to any one who is about to marry.

Thumboo, with the blessing of Providence, was fortunate enough to make choice of one who answered all the above qualifications, and the damsel so selected was one of his close kindred—his own sister's daughter. Being within the prohibited degrees of consanguinity, a special license was obtained for the marriage from the highest ecclesiastical authority. It may here be noted that the Catholic Church in India, taking into consideration the peculiar manners and customs of Indian Christians, who, notwithstanding change of religion, observe caste and maintain the social rules which do not interfere with the observance of the precepts of the Christian religion, specially license marriages among close relations on a limited scale. This is deemed a necessity, as converts to the Christian faith are, on account of their caste, compelled to contract marriage alliances within their own gotra or clan, of whom there are very few belonging to the same faith. Thumboo's mar-



MRS. THUMBOO CHETTY

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riage was celebrated, with great *eclat*, in the Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Refuge in Popham's Broadway, Madras, of which the young couple were special benefactors and in which the exceedingly beautiful golden altar (their subsequent gift) stands to this day admired for its excellent workmanship. By a pleasing coincidence, the solemn oaths of matrimony were taken before the Very Reverend Father B. F. Amarante, the Episcopal Governor of the Bishopric of St. Thome, at whose hands they had received their First Communion also in their youth. Kneeling devoutly before the altar they prayed earnestly that they might grow old, both together, in peace and health and in the fear of God, while the Vicar-General pronounced the blessing in the following terms :—

“MAY THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, THE GOD OF ISAAC AND THE GOD OF JACOB be with you, and may He accomplish His blessings upon you, that you may see your children's children, even to the third and the fourth generation, and afterwards have eternal life, by the grace of our Lord JESUS CHRIST, who lives and reigns for ever and ever—*Amen*.” —a blessing which truly and happily proved efficacious. After returning from the church in a grand procession, accompanied by a large number of relations and friends and residents of the town of Madras, the marriage ceremonies and festivities at home were performed and kept up as usual for seven days, terminating with the feeding of the poor and the presentation of cloths—two of the

largest items of expenditure in a Hindu marriage—which generally entail a large cost and which are considered unavoidable even in poor families, tradition enjoining the same as a work of exemplary charity on such joyous occasions.

Shortly after marriage Thumboo Chetty had to proceed to the Nilgiris on duty with the then Quartermaster-General Colonel F. H. Scott and to stay there for nearly a year. The change to the hills from Madras, where the heat was intense, was most enjoyable to Thumboo Chetty. He, however, left home with regret, for it was necessary to part with a large and agreeable circle of relations and friends and to submit to nearly a year's banishment from city life. The railway was then opened only as far as Tripatur. This portion of the journey was pleasantly and swiftly performed, but between Tripatur and Ooty, *via* Bangalore, the travelling in a transit—changing bullocks every five miles—was most fatiguing and disagreeable. The ascent over the Seegur Ghât was a regular up-hill work and had to be accomplished with four bullocks to each cart. After all the annoyances and fatigue of incessant travelling for three days, Thumboo Chetty found, on reaching Fern Hill (Ooty), efficacious restoratives in an excellent supper and comfortable bed prepared by his trustworthy servant, who had been previously deputed for the purpose. Just before leaving Ooty, in December 1861, Thumboo Chetty, in writing to his friend

Mr. Krishnaraj (afterwards called Mr. Kitto), gave a brief description of the place as follows :—

The cold atmosphere, the bracing climate and the varied scenery of Ooty have many attractions, and even one unaccustomed to violent exercise is tempted to indulge in it to keep himself warm by taking long walks and rides. The greatest care one has to take is to keep his bed and blankets free from fleas and avoid being tormented while sleeping by myriads of these detestable insects. During a whole year's stay I had seen Ooty under every aspect—in cloud, in sunshine, in storm and calm, by star and moonlight, and I am carried away with the impression that no place in Southern India stands amid nobler scenery than Ooty. I wish to add that nature had indeed spread her beauties here with a lavish hand, and as the years succeed one another Ooty will become more and more important to the many visitors who seek here rest during the hottest part of the year. In short, to the soul poetic, there are scenes and sounds and fragrances too sweet and fair for words to reach.

CHAPTER IV.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Within a few weeks after his return from the Hills, the local Legislative Councils were established, under the provisions of an Act of Parliament, 24 & 25, Victoria, Cap. 67. The Council of Fort St. George for making Laws and Regulations was composed of His Excellency the Governor (the Hon. Sir William Denison, Ag.), His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the two Civil Covenanted

Executive Members, four *ex-officio* Members and three non-official Members. Mr. John Dawson Mayne, the eminent Barrister-at-law, was the first Legislative Secretary and Thumboo Chetty was the first Manager of the newly created department. The first native gentleman who had the honour of a seat in Council was the Hon. Vembakum Sadagopa Charlu, one of the leading members of the local bar. He introduced what was known as the Hindu Wills Bill, *i.e.*, a bill to declare more precisely the legal efficacy of wills among Hindus and to legalize the alienation of self-acquired property of Hindus in land, which evoked much criticism and which unfortunately was shelved owing to the premature and much lamented death of its author, and which, after more than a quarter of a century, was only lately (in 1897) introduced into the Council in a modified form by the Hon. V. Bashyam Iyengar, a relative and worthy representative of Mr. Sadagopa Charlu. The Hon. Mr. Shurful Oomrah Bahadur was the first Mahomedan Member of the Council. He belonged to the late Carnatic Nabob's family. During his term of office he endeavoured to make a representation for the amendment of section 497 of the Indian Penal Code, so as to enable the criminal courts to punish not only the adulterer but also the adulteress for the offence mentioned in that section. He had, however, no supporters. The next member was the Hon. Gazula Latchminarasu Chetty Garu, a caste-man and kinsman of Thumboo Chetty, and



THE HONORABLE MR. JOHN DAWSON MAYNE

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who was a Hindu patriot in the real sense of the term. He was the Proprietor and Editor of the then well-conducted native organ *The Crescent*, to which Thumboo Chetty was, in his younger days, a frequent contributor. The Honourable Member was the life and soul of the Madras Native Association, which distinguished itself by memorializing Parliament for the removal of certain grievances and advocating the advancement of natives by throwing open to them higher appointments in the Government service. For nearly four years and-a-half Thumboo Chetty was Manager of the Legislative Department. He was held in very high estimation by his employers, Messrs. J. D. Mayne, T. M. Busted and Patrick O'Sullivan, both for the quantity and for the quality of the work performed by him. Mr. Mayne was pleased to certify—

Thumboo Chetty is neat, orderly and expeditious in the disposal of business, and that he writes and speaks English as well as a European.

This was fully endorsed by Mr. T. M. Busted. Mr. P. O'Sullivan testified that—

Thumboo Chetty had great talent for business, and that his attainments, judged even by a European standard, were solid and conspicuous.

While employed in the Legislative Department Thumboo Chetty's eldest son was born and was called after the grandfather's name, Royalu Chetty, at whose christening there was great rejoicing.

Mr. J. D. Mayne was also the Professor of Law in the Presidency College, and, at his suggestion, Thumboo Chetty joined the Law Class, passed the annual examinations in all the subjects, in which lectures had been delivered, during a three-years' course, with great credit, and at the final examination held in 1865 obtained the first prize for proficiency in law. Mr. Mayne was so well impressed with Thumboo Chetty's progress in his law studies that he predicted that he would, in course of time, prove to be "a most valuable member of the judicial body," a prediction which was fully realised afterwards.

CHAPTER V.

MUNSIFF OF PURGHI (BELLARY).

After passing the prescribed judicial tests, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was, in 1866, on the recommendation of Mr. (afterwards the Honourable) J. R. Kindersley, the then Civil Judge of the Bellary District, appointed by the High Court of Madras as District Munsiff of Purghi in that district. He held this post for nearly nine months and distinguished himself as an impartial and popular Judge, scrupulously acting up to the solemn oath he took as Munsiff, which was in the following form :—

I, TRICHINOPOLY ROYALU AROGHEASWAMI THUMBOO CHETTY, swear that I will truly and faithfully execute the duties of Judge of the Court of District Munsiff of Purghi,

in the Zilla of Bellary; that I will administer justice according to the regulations in force to the best of my ability, knowledge and judgment, without fear, favour, promise or hope of reward; and that I will not receive, directly or indirectly, any present or nuzzer, either in money or in effects of any kind, from any party, in any suit or prosecution or from any person whomsoever on account of any suit or prosecution to be instituted, or which may be pending, or has been decided in the said court of which I am Judge; nor will I knowingly permit any person or persons under my authority, or in my immediate service, to receive, directly or indirectly, any present or nuzzer, either in money or in effects of any kind, from any party in any suit or prosecution to be instituted, or which may be pending or has been decided in the said court; nor will I, directly or indirectly, derive any advantage or emolument from my station, excepting such as the orders of Government do or may authorise. So help me God.

While at Purghi, there was the Akshya famine of an appalling character, which caused much misery and suffering amongst the poorer classes, including about 160 families of the court amins and process peons. Cholera, murrain and failure of the crops greatly aggravated the distress. The Purghi tank, which was one of the largest tanks of the Bellary District, yielding a wet assessment of about Rs. 36,000, became perfectly dry. Thumboo Chetty painfully witnessed with his own eyes that the poor people, having sold all that they possessed, some even abandoning their children, were driven to feed on the kernel of the tamarind fruit and on cotton seed reduced to flour, and even on leaves

and roots. One day, when the famine was at its height, the Komaties of Purghi, from fear of being looted, refused to open their shops and to sell grain at any price. This caused a commotion among the court amins and peons who complained of starvation. Thumboo Chetty promptly procured a large supply of grain from the Reddis and Patels of the place and made a distribution. By this thoughtful act a grain riot was averted. The effects of the drought continued till the month of September, when one night there was a most unexpected copious fall of rain, which at once filled the tank and gladdened the hearts of the people and allayed all apprehensions as to the future prospects of the seasons. In writing, in November 1866, to his father-in-law, Mr. Ponnoo Chettiar, Thumboo Chetty gave the following sketch of Purghi :—

Purghi is a miserable place. It has a desolate appearance. It is inhabited chiefly by Brahmins, Mahomedans and Komaties, who live in ill-ventilated and uncomfortable mud houses. It is with great difficulty I obtained one of these for my residence when I came here, and I am doing all the repairs myself to make it as comfortable as possible. There are no bazaars and no weekly markets to procure the necessaries of life. The water is brackish and my waterman has to go three miles to fetch a pot of water for drinking purposes. The Tahsildar's station (Hindupur) is five miles away, and one has to provide himself with a supply of what he wants at the shandy or fair held at Hindupur once a week. The court-house, more than half a century old, came down with a sudden crash during the heavy rains of September, and the court is now held in a

rented building ill-adapted for the purpose. A strong representation has been made by me for the removal of the Court to Pennukonda. To one who has been accustomed to the luxury of town life, like that of Madras, Purghi is a regular banishment and irksome solitude.

Fortunately, Thumboo Chetty obtained two years' leave when he left the Legislative Department to take up the Munsiff's post, and he really wished to return to Madras and resume the Managership of that department ; but Providence—the Great Disposer of events—ordains everything in His infinite wisdom, and Thumboo Chetty's sojourn in Purghi was soon determined by his transfer to Bangalore. In Purghi, deprived of all society and comforts, he worked hard in a court which had a very heavy file, ranging from 1,500 to 2,000 suits a year, almost all intricate cases, including many land and boundary disputes not easy to settle. With an establishment of Munshis, not one of whom knew English, Thumboo Chetty had himself to fair-copy all his English judgments to be filed with the records, as required by an old rule of practice of the late Sudr Court, and also to translate the judgments into Telugu, which was the language of the district.

CHAPTER VI.

TRANSFER TO MYSORE.

On the 21st of January 1867, Mr. Kindersley wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty regarding his transfer to Bangalore in these terms:—

The Sheristadar of the Judicial Commissioner's Office in Mysore having been promoted, I now write to tell you that your appointment as Sheristadar will appear in next Saturday's *Mysore Gazette*. This will be no surprise to Mr. Sullivan, as I have already asked his consent to your appointment. But it will be necessary for you to obtain his permission to accept the post and to resign the District Munsiff's Court. I shall be much obliged by your joining as early as possible, as I am at present without a Sheristadar.

On Thumboo Chetty applying to the Civil Judge of Bellary for permission to hand over charge of the Purghee Munsiff's Court to the Head Gumastah and to proceed to Bangalore, Mr. (afterwards the Honourable) H. E. Sullivan wrote on 26th January 1867, as follows:—

I had heard from Mr. Kindersley of his intention to appoint you Sheristadar of the Judicial Commissioner's Office in the Mysore Territories. I congratulate you on being selected to fill so important a post, and Mr. Kindersley in having secured the services of a person who bears such a high character as yourself both in private life and also as regards judicial attainments. Your gain is my loss. I don't know how to supply your place. I regret very much



THE HONORABLE MR. JUSTICE J. R. KINDERSLEY



not having seen you, but hope some day I may have that pleasure. You have my full permission to make over charge of your court to the Head Gumastah as soon as you like, and I wish you every success.

On the eve of leaving Purghi *en route* to Bangalore, there was an immense gathering of people, including the members of the Bar, court officials and others, who were much moved at the parting from their beloved Munsiff and who expressed their heartfelt wishes for his future advancement. From Purghi to Hindupur (a distance of five miles), it was one long procession of people paying homage to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, who had won golden opinions for his impartial administration of justice. The Mysore Bar was newly formed on 1st February 1867, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty joined the Judicial Commissioner's Court on the same day. His advent into Mysore was also contemporaneous with the birth of his eldest daughter named Amarapathy, who bore a remarkable resemblance to her mother. Mr. Thumboo Chetty's appointment was viewed with great jealousy and disappointment by the Mysoreans. There was a loud protest in the local newspapers, and Mr. Bowring, the Chief Commissioner, who was in England at the time, on being apprised of the appointment, wrote as follows to the late Mr. Arunachelam Mudaliar, the Head Sheristadar of his office:—

I trust that the nomination of Mr. Thumboo Chetty to the Sheristadarship of the Judicial Commissioner's Office may prove a success, especially as you say he is a Native

Christian. I should have preferred, on general grounds, that a Mysore official should have been appointed to a post of such importance, as I should be averse to admit outsiders, considering the feeling of the people of the province on the subject. But it may be observed that the nomination (the nominee's abilities being taken for granted) ought to prove satisfactory, as he will have many enemies ready to entrap him, and he must needs walk carefully and with uprightness. I should, moreover, hope that he will do so, if he acts up to the tenets of the religion which he professes.

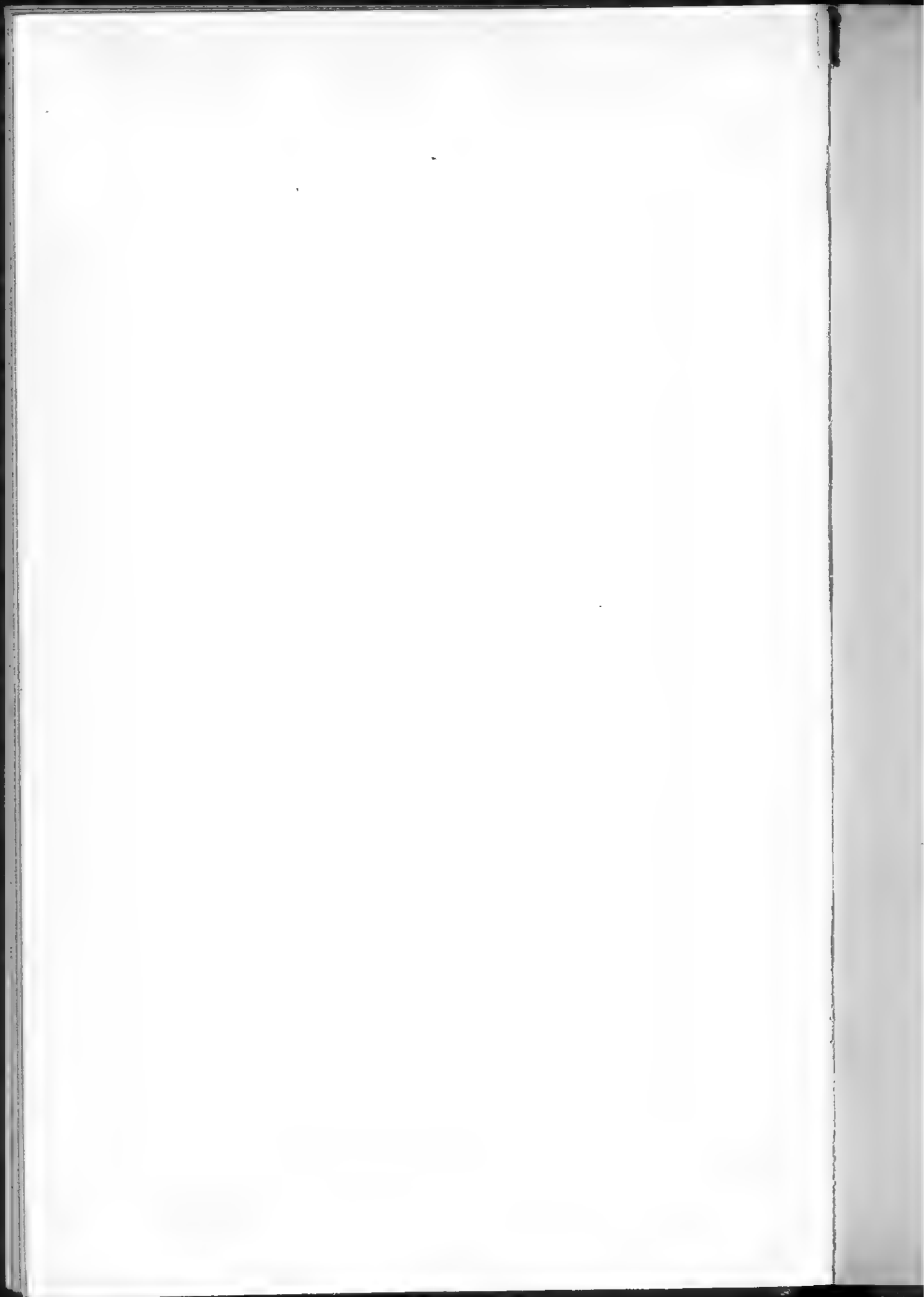
Mr. Bowring was quite right in expressing his views as above, and in expecting on the part of Mr. Thumboo Chetty the utmost vigilance and the most unswerving fidelity in the discharge of his official duties. Next to character is capacity. There was happily a combination of both in Mr. Thumboo Chetty which ensured his further rapid advancement in Mysore to positions of trust and responsibility. The Hon. Mr. J. R. Kindersley wrote of him thus on 20th November 1867 :—

T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty served under me first as District Munsiff of Purghi in the District of Bellary and afterwards I appointed him Sheristadar of the Judicial Commissioner's Office at Bangalore. He has always given me the most complete satisfaction as a public servant. He has great talent for business combined with an amiable disposition and uprightness of conduct, such as are seldom found united in any one person. I trust that he will always maintain the high character which he has now attained.

Within a few weeks of his arrival at Bangalore, Mr. Thumboo Chetty proceeded to Mysore to pay



THE HONORABLE MR. L. B. BOWRING, C.S.I.



his homage to the then Maharajah (grandfather of the present Maharajah).

"There (writes Mr. Thumboo Chetty) I was accorded a joyful welcome. I related the circumstances which led to my transfer to Mysore, and I was very much struck with what fell from the lips of His Highness who, as I stood up and made my obeisance and craved leave to depart, gave a gentle tap on my shoulder and, with a majestic look and in a powerful voice, said :—

Young as you are you have a long career of usefulness before you. You are new to Mysore, but I am sure you will be kind and sympathetic to the Mysoreans, always treating them as your own countrymen.

I regarded this as a golden admonition indicating His Highness's lofty ideal and great anxiety for the well-being of his beloved subjects."

Shortly after this interview, the Rendition of Mysore, or rather the succession of the son adopted by His Highness the late Maharajah, Krishna Raja Wadiar Bahadur, to the ancient kingdom of Mysore, was decided upon, and the most welcome and friendly Khareetah, based on the despatch of Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 69, dated 16th April 1867, was received. Her Majesty's Government at the same time were desirous of adopting the best means of gradually increasing the strength of the Native Agency in Mysore, and it was accordingly decided to give the native officers of what was then known as the Mysore Commission a large share in the administration of the country.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had a brilliant future before him. In the very first year in which Mr. Thumboo Chetty worked as the Judicial Head Sheristadar of the Province, his services were so well appreciated by the Acting Judicial Commissioner, the Honourable Mr. J. R. Kindersley, that, in submitting to Government the Judicial Administration Report for 1867 on 15th May 1868, he concluded it in these terms :—

Para. 52.—I could not have discharged the more important duties of my office without the intelligent and faithful assistance of my Sheristadar, Mr. Thumboo Chetty, in ministerial duties.

The Judicial Commissioner of Mysore was also entrusted with the Judicial Administration of Coorg; and, in connection with the reconstitution of the courts in that province, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was specially useful. With the experience he gained in the Madras Legislative Department, he drafted the Coorg Courts' Act, XXV of 1868, which was accepted and passed by the Government of India. The primary object of the Act was to settle and define the jurisdiction of the various Civil and Criminal Courts in Coorg, which were previously but ill-regulated, and to formally introduce into that province the Code of Criminal Procedure and abrogate the Dariaft Cutcherry, an old institution which was worked in a rough fashion under the presidency of a judge called the Mooktesar assisted by a punchayet selected from

various classes of persons in rotation. The change was a desirable one as remarked by Mr. Bowring in his review of the Coorg Administration Report for 1868 :—

Such institutions, proceeding as they do on no ascertained rule and influenced by local prejudices rather than guided by law, are but too often more appreciated by lazy judges and corrupt subordinates than by suitors themselves.

Although Mr. Thumboo Chetty was permanently appointed to the Mysore Service, yet he thought it prudent to retain his lien on his appointment in Madras by obtaining leave till 18th December 1867 in order to see how he got on in a Native State like Mysore. He applied for a further extension which was not granted, and this induced him to almost make up his mind to return to Madras, but he was dissuaded from so doing by his friend, Mr. Mayne, who wrote :—

MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—The note below from Mr. Ellis ought to be very satisfactory to you. Keep up a good heart. Do your duty honestly and don't be afraid of any one. Yours very sincerely, John D. Mayne.—December 24, 1867.

MY DEAR MAYNE,—Bowring writes to me of Thumboo Chetty as follows :—Thumboo Chetty, regarding whom you write recommending the grant of an extension of the leave already granted to him, is now Sheristadar of the Judicial Commissioner's Office, and Saunders has just recommended him to act as Second Judge of our Small Cause Court. I am glad to say he is very well spoken of and is said to be quite clean-handed, from which I infer that attempts

have been made to test his purity. He will make hereafter a good Assistant, but he is somewhat nervous about the powerful influence which he has to contend with as the Judicial Commissioner's Sheristadar. I think Thumboo Chetty's career looks promising. You might try and get him to take heart and not be nervous. Yours very sincerely, R. S. ELLIS.—Sunday.

After a personal interview with Mr. Mayne and acting up to his kind advice, Mr. Thumboo Chetty relinquished his lien on Madras and stuck to Mysore.

Mr. Thumboo Chetty's next step in the official ladder was the appointment of Second Judge, Small Cause Court. Mr. Saunders, in recommending him for that place, wrote as follows to the Chief Commissioner on 19th December 1867 :—

Mr. Thumboo Chetty was appointed to his present post by Mr. Kindersley on account of his judicial attainments and of the high opinion which he entertained of his probity and official qualifications while holding the subordinate post of District Munsiff of Purghi in the Bellary District, during the period he himself held the appointment of Civil and Sessions Judge of that Zillah. The Hon. John Dawson Mayne, under whom he served, while he was Assistant Secretary to the Legislative Council in Madras, originally recommended him for the post of District Munsiff and has intimated to me the high opinion which he entertains of his judicial aptitude and high character. Since I reverted to my substantive appointment, I have had good opportunities of making myself acquainted with Mr. Thumboo Chetty's merits and judicial qualifications, and, although I shall be sorry to lose his services for the

time being and he will himself obtain no pecuniary benefit from acting in the appointment, I can safely recommend him as the person who is, in my opinion, best qualified to undertake the duties of the Second Judge during Mr. Venkataradiengar's temporary absence on privilege leave.

Mr. Kindersley congratulated Mr. Thumboo Chetty on his appointment to the Small Cause Court, and wrote as follows on 24th January 1868 :—

I rejoice in your promotion to act as Judge of the Court of Small Causes, even for a short time, and I hope that, as Judge, you will enjoy as high a reputation as you did as Sheristadar. Above all, let your hands be clean and show favour to none for any reason. I consider your promotion as a marked approval of my choice of you as Sheristadar, which was so much questioned by those who knew neither you nor me. I am here till the end of February, when I go to Belary. It seems very uncertain whether I shall act for Mr. Holloway. He leaves on the 21st March. But, whatever becomes of me, I hope to hear, from time to time, of you as a shining light in Mysore.

While in the Bangalore Court of Small Causes, an important question arose under the Registration Act, and a report of the case No. 807-68, C., *Hinduram v Bauburam and another*, will be found published in the *Madras Jurist*, June 1st, 1868. That was a suit on a bond. Defendants admitted the execution of the bond, but denied consideration before the Registrar, who made an endorsement to that effect. The endorsement was relied upon by defendants. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, in an exhaustive judgment, held that the Registrar had no

authority under section 66 of the Registration Act to make an entry as to non-receipt of consideration, and that plaintiff was not bound by such unauthorised entry. In commenting on this judgment, which was the first decision of the kind under the Act, the Editor of the *Jurist* made the following observations :—

The foregoing judgment appeared in the *Bangalore Herald*. We republish it, a correspondent guaranteeing the correctness of the report, as containing a rather important interpretation of one of the clauses of section 66 of the Indian Registration Act. We believe that the point has never yet come before any of our Courts in Madras. At first blush, it seemed to us that the Second Judge was not correct, because, if the registering officer could endorse on the deed any admission of the receipt of consideration, it appeared to us that, in common fairness, he was equally bound to note any denial of such receipt. But, on mature consideration, we think that Mr. Thumboo Chetty was quite right in holding in the above case that the Registering Officer exceeded his authority in making an entry of the obligor's assertion of the non-receipt of consideration. In the first place, there is no express provision authorising him to do so. In the next, it may lead to numerous difficulties, all going to detract from the validity of the document in question; for instance, consideration for landed property purchased is not ordinarily paid until the deed of sale is first registered; then again the consideration may be for liquidating existing mortgages, or it might be a past debt, though recited as an existing consideration, and, if the question were put, the obligor would, in all probability, say :—"No, I have not received the consideration spoken of." It is only necessary to point out that, though the Act appears to contemplate the putting of



H. H. SRI KRISHNARAJA WADIAR, G.C.S.I.

questions on the part of the Registrar as to the execution of the document, it does not require him to examine the parties as to the receipt of consideration ; and, all things considered, it seems only prudent to refrain from doing so, the Registrar being bound, however, to record all voluntary admissions of receipt of considerations.—*Ed., M. J.*

On the 28th March 1867, just as Mr. Thumboo Chetty was preparing to go to the Small Cause Court, he received the sad intelligence of the death of His Highness the Maharajah, Krishna Raj Wodiar Bahadur, G.C.S.I., and the Courts were directed to be closed for three days. The event was regarded as a great calamity throughout Mysore ; but the apprehensions of the people as to the future of this ancient Native State were removed by the following Proclamation of the Government of India, No. 325, dated 30th March 1868, recognising His Highness Chamarajendra Wodiar Bahadur, the adopted son of the late Maharajah, as Maharajah of Mysore :—

His Excellency the Right Honourable the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council announces to the chiefs and people of Mysore the death of His Highness the Maharajah Krishna Raj Wodiar Bahadur, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. This event is regarded with sorrow by the Government of India, with which the late Maharajah had preserved relations of friendship for more than half a century. His Highness Chamarajendra Wodiar Bahadur, at present a minor, the adopted son of the late Maharajah, is acknowledged by the Government of India as his successor and as Maharajah of the Mysore Territories. During the minority of His High-

ness, the said territories will be administered in His Highness' name by the British Government and will be governed on the same principles and under the same regulations as heretofore. When His Highness shall attain to the period of majority, that is, the age of eighteen years, and if His Highness shall then be found qualified for the discharge of duties of his exalted position, the Government of the country will be entrusted to him subject to such conditions as may be determined at that time. By order of His Excellency the Right Honourable the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council.—R. TEMPLE, *Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.*

After officiating for three months as the Second Judge of the Bangalore Court of Small Causes and Deputy Registrar-General, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had to revert to the Head Sheristadary of the Judicial Commissioner's Court where he remained only for a short time.

In June 1868, Mr. Thumboo Chetty's second son, Dharma Raj, was born. An addition of sons to a family is generally preferred to an increase in the number of daughters. Hence, there was great rejoicing on the occasion of the birth of the second son in the family.

In March 1868, Mr. Thumboo Chetty, as a member of the Bangalore Literary and Scientific Institute, now called the 'Bowring Institute,' took part in a debate on the subject of 'Popular Education' at a meeting presided over by the then Chief Commissioner, Mr. L. B. Bowring, C.S.I. Mr. Thumboo Chetty's contention, which

met with the approval of the Chairman and the general sense of the meeting, was that the best means of promoting knowledge generally among the masses of the people were by imparting instruction in their own vernacular. The following are some of the salient points of the speech:—

The subject of popular education, Mr. Thumboo Chetty said, was one of vast importance and presented an ample scope for discussion. The duty of imparting general instruction to the masses of the people was a paramount obligation which primarily devolved on the State. Since the arrival of Lord Hastings as Governor-General, English education had been making rapid progress, but it was confined to a few and did not and could not reach the masses. English had, no doubt, a charm, as a knowledge thereof was the speediest way to secure employment. A neglect of the vernaculars had, in a measure, tended to discourage female education. In many families there were females who could read and write the vernacular, which was their mother tongue, but it was not easy to get them to learn English. If the same facilities now available for studying English were afforded as regards the vernaculars, the reproach to which Hindus were now subjected for not educating their females would be removed. Those who had received English education bore a very small proportion to those who were ignorant of English, and the result was an estrangement or separation between the English-knowing class and the majority of the Hindus who were uneducated, tending to destroy those friendly and social ties which would otherwise subsist amongst them. Until knowledge was diffused by the medium of the mother tongue among the people and ignorance was eradicated, it was impossible to effect a single reform that would be acceptable to the people generally.

Another defect in the present system of education was that those who received a sound and liberal education did not make themselves useful in promoting the vernacular education of the masses. Very few of the graduates had translated useful works from English into the vernaculars. It should be the pride and glory of a nation to encourage, as much as possible, the study of its own literature. It could not be denied that Hindus, like many other civilized nations of the world, possessed an ancient and extensive literature. Many of the works written by their bards were not inferior to those of Shakespeare and Milton. Poetry ranked first and foremost among the literature of the Hindus. Dramatic entertainments were once carried to a state of perfection, which was a sign of their ancient civilization. Hindu astronomy exhibited many proofs of accurate observation and deduction highly creditable to the Indian astronomers. It could not be denied that Hindus made early progress in arithmetic, and that they were the inventors of the decimal notation and algebraic signs. Logic was the favourite study of the Brahmins, the Hindu school of Logic resembling that of Aristotle, and the Indian Philosophy that of the earlier Greeks. The knowledge of herbs, roots and other plants for medicinal purposes had been extensive among Indian physicians. It is also supposed by many that the Hindus were the first nation who employed minerals for internal use for the cure of diseases. The Hindu physicians were celebrated for forming correct prognostics by feeling the pulse of the patient, an art in which they were seldom excelled by the best European doctors. Even as regards arts and sciences, India possessed a civilization of her own. The gorgeous temples and magnificent palaces and stately edifices to be found everywhere in India testify to the knowledge the Hindus possessed in the practice of architecture and to their skill in the art of sculpture. In weaving and jewellery,

they excelled many other nations. The system of agriculture may be improved with the introduction of machinery; but, with the few simple implements now used, the Hindus manage to sow with ease and to reap as plentifully as other nations, provided the bounties of nature favour them with periodical and seasonable rains. Although the Hindus were originally a civilized nation, the ravages of time and foreign invasions and conquests produced a decline of their literature and arts. As a spring did not always flourish, so the same literature, which at one period was richer than any, became poorer. The Hindus had also allowed their literature to stand alone without receiving any accessions from the literatures of other countries and to sink into a state of insignificance. The system of priestcraft, which exercised a pernicious influence on the Hindus in many respects, had also confined their literature to a particular class and impeded its progress. As observed by Mr. Mountstuart Elphinstone :—"The ancient Hindus, seeing themselves superior to all the tribes, of whom they had knowledge, learned to despise the institutions of foreigners and to revere their own, until they became incapable of receiving improvement from without, and averse to novelties even among themselves."

The moral and social condition of the people of India would be ameliorated by reviving their ancient literature and arts, and further by communicating the learning and science of the Western world to the masses of the people through the medium of their own vernaculars. Mr. Thumboo Chetty concluded his speech thus :—

If you wish to regenerate the people of India, to elevate them in the scale of civilized society, to improve their stock of national talents, to promote public morals among

them, and, generally, to contribute to their material, social and intellectual prosperity, and, in short, to secure the peace of the country and the stability of the British Government, and to produce general contentment, welfare and happiness among the people, this could only be done effectually by the universal diffusion of general and useful knowledge (theoretical and practical) among the masses by means of their own vernaculars. .

What Mr. Thumboo Chetty maintained, more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ decades ago, is substantiated by the fact that, at the census of 1901, it was found that, out of a total population of $5\frac{1}{2}$ millions in the Mysore Province, only 5 per cent. were literate and the rest wholly illiterate; and, as regards literacy in English, the figures showed that only 0·4 per cent. of males and 0·07 per cent. of females knew English. Mr. Thumboo Chetty was always of opinion that every nation must take a peculiar pleasure in encouraging primarily the study of its own vernaculars. On one occasion, addressing the students of the Bangalore Petta Municipal School at the annual distribution of prizes, he remarked as follows :—

Whatever knowledge may be acquired by the study of languages other than one's own mother tongue, it can never be communicated with advantage unless by such as can write and speak their own language well. Nothing but a thorough knowledge of one's own tongue would enable a person to translate with facility into his own vernaculars useful works published in English or any other foreign tongue. It is, therefore, necessary to secure to the pupil, in the first instance, a good knowledge of his own

vernacular before he commences to study English. All the improvements in the social and civil position of man, which are dependent on his character and his enlightened views of the sources of public and private prosperity, depend also on the education of the rising generation, who are not confined to towns, like Bangalore, but are spread among the masses and scattered over the length and breadth of India. It is much easier to educate them primarily in their own vernacular than in any foreign tongue.

In 1876, a school was founded out of funds bequeathed by one Marimallapah and called after his name. It is doing good work and poor Lingayet boys have free access to it. When Mr. Thumboo Chetty presided at one of the annual distributions of prizes, he laid particular stress on the necessity for the more liberal extension of private charity for promoting primary education. He said there was one peculiarity connected with this school which deserved special notice. Marimallapah was not a very wealthy man. He was a Gurikar (or Manager) in the Palace Department under His Highness the late Maharajah. He was possessed of some little wealth, and he is said to his credit that in his dying moments he hit upon the very happy idea of bequeathing a greater portion of his earnings, amounting to Rs. 30,000, and a house worth about Rs. 4,000, to be utilized for imparting education, chiefly to the youths of the Sivachar caste to which he belonged. He knew that his caste people were wanting in knowledge, and that the

best way of ameliorating their condition was by educating them. His widow, also actuated by the same laudable desire to promote education, contributed largely to the extent of Rs. 13,000 towards erecting the magnificent building in which the school was held. The example set by both Mallapah and his wife was really praiseworthy and should serve as an incentive to many others to follow their noble example, which proves how every one, even though possessed of moderate means, may, if charitably disposed, help to spread the light of education among his fellow countrymen by making a small endowment according to one's means and thereby assist the general scheme of primary education of the masses. By such good deed the image of the donor could always be traced from posterity to posterity, so long as the charity was properly maintained and continued. In Mysore, there was much scope and encouragement for such charitable endowments which, by being permitted to be deposited with Government, bearing interest at the liberal rate of 5 per cent. per annum, received suitable recognition and support from His Highness the Maharajah, who always evinced special interest in the matter of the education of his beloved subjects. The rapid growth of the present educational system augured well for the future of India. The widest possible benefits were being conferred upon youths by giving them sound and liberal education, with a view

to make them capable of enjoying life and making it a success for themselves and a benefit to their dependents, but the evil which affected the country was that stern death snatched away many of the best young men of ability and talents in the prime of their life and before they could long continue their useful labours for the advancement of their fellow countrymen. This was a matter of great importance which demanded serious consideration. It behoved therefore both parents and teachers to realize the great responsibility that devolved on them and to take especial care in bringing up children. The body cannot be maintained in health if all the work was thrown on the brain. Proper physical culture was also absolutely necessary, and in this connection, he was glad to find that in this school the boys were subjected to a regular course of training in gymnasium and enjoyed out-door sports, etc., involving the exercise of the muscles, so as to promote the growth of the figure in young persons. As an American author very properly put it, there were three important departments of human nature—mental, moral and physical—in all of which a boy must be properly educated, if he wished to be useful to himself and to his countrymen. Herein lay the great problem of the day for Indian youths, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty felt he could not too strongly impress upon parents and masters the necessity for aiding the youth in the early years of his life and up to the attainment of

maturity, in the formation of thoroughly good habits. This should be strictly borne in mind both at home and in school. This was the sure foundation for ensuring longevity and a career of usefulness to young men who pass out of the colleges with academical honours.

CHAPTER VII.

Mr. Thumboo Chetty was appointed Assistant Superintendent on 6th July 1868 and promoted to the third grade on 29th December 1868. In addition to Revenue and Civil duties, he exercised the powers of a First class Magistrate with appellate jurisdiction over Second and Third class Magistrates. The Divisional and District Officers in Mysore, as well as their subordinates (Assistant Superintendents and Amildars), had then both Revenue and Judicial functions to perform. Certain changes sanctioned by the Government of India in the Judicial Administration led to the appointment of eight Judicial Assistants, one to each district, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty was one of them. This appointment was made in May 1869, and he was posted to the Kolar District. Soon after this transfer, the Honourable J. R. Kindersley, in a letter, dated 5th December 1870, wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty as follows:—

You owe your present position to your own high character and industry rather than to me. I trust that I

shall always hear the same account of you, and that, whatever changes may be in store for Mysore, you will not change.

Kolar Town, though the head-quarters of the district, was a second Purghi in appearance with miserable mud-roofed houses infested with scorpions and frequently visited by cholera and other epidemics. The water was unwholesome. It was with the utmost difficulty Mr. Thumboo Chetty procured a house which had a small compound enclosed with ruined walls. The repairs cost now and then a large sum, and there was neither comfort nor convenience nor sufficient accommodation. For nearly three years Mr. Thumboo Chetty continued to be attached to the Kolar District, with occasional trips to certain out-stations, where he held periodical sittings for the disposal of judicial work, which accumulated once in three months, especially in the sub-station of Chickballapur, one of the most litigious places, but noted for the salubrity of its climate, as it was close to the old ruined military sanitarium at the foot of Nundydroog. In the town of Kolar, there is the mausoleum of Fateh Mahomed, father of Hyder Ali. Three miles from Kolar Town is the Satasruna or Hundred-headed Hill, and also a spring issuing from the Antarganga temple, which is reputed to be the real Ganga, the water of which is supposed to have been brought from the Ganges. Twelve miles from Kolar Town is the railway station, and seven

miles from the Kolar Road Railway Station are the richest gold fields in the Mysore Province, which have developed to such an extent as to induce English capitalists of large means to work up the mines to their own profit and to the advantage of the Mysore State.

While in Kolar, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was blessed with a third son, who was named Sathya Raj, and whose birth was, in a couple of years, followed by the accession to the family of two more daughters, named Sathiavathy and Dhanavathy, thereby enhancing the cares and responsibilities of their loving parents.

Mr. Thumboo Chetty's tenure of office as Judicial Assistant Commissioner or Subordinate Judge of Kolar lasted for nearly three years, when the then Chief Commissioner, Sir Richard Meade, was anxious to transfer him to the Revenue Department, with a view to his qualifying himself for the higher post of a Collector (Deputy Commissioner) of a district. Accordingly, he was posted to Bangalore, where he was in charge of the Headquarters Revenue Sub-Division, consisting of three taluks, with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class. Though a novice in revenue work, he mastered all its details in a short time so thoroughly, that, during his first jamabundy of Hoskote Taluk, he detected defalcations to a large extent, discovered the delinquent who had been perpetrating frauds for a series of years, and convicted and sentenced

him to a long term of imprisonment. This had a most salutary effect on the officials of the district. In submitting a report to Government on this case Mr. Thumboo Chetty pointed out the defects of the existing system of checking Taluk and District accounts, and suggested certain improvements and safeguards, for which he received the thanks of Government. While in the Revenue Branch, entrusted with the executive work of a Sub-Division officer, Mr. Thumboo Chetty readily entered into those species of exercises, such as riding, shooting, etc., which became essential while travelling out of towns and exposed to wanderings in villages and jungles. He did not, however, remain long in the Revenue Department.

The exigencies of the judicial service rendered necessary his transfer to Tumkur as Judicial Assistant and again to the Bangalore Subordinate Court, to relieve Captain Shaw. Bangalore had been reserved for a European Judicial Officer with a special allowance of Rs. 200, but the rule was relaxed in the case of Mr. Thumboo Chetty, who presided over this Court for nearly four years. Sir Richard Meade also allowed him to draw the allowance specially sanctioned for a European Assistant.

With an intelligent Bar, well versed in the technicalities of law and with an amount of litigation of a peculiar and difficult kind, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had no easy task as Judicial Assistant Com-

missioner of Bangalore. He acquitted himself well, so as to earn promotion to a higher appointment. Major Lindsay, the First Judge of the Bangalore Court of Small Causes, proceeded on leave, and this appointment, which, from the establishment of the Court in 1862, was always held by a European Officer, was conferred on Mr. Thumboo Chetty by the Honourable Mr. R. A. Dalyell, the then Chief Commissioner. Here also he gained the approbation of the public and the Bar, who regretted his sudden re-transfer to the Revenue Department.

CHAPTER VIII.

While in the Small Cause Court, there was a sudden interruption to his Judicial career. The lamented death of Mr. B. Gopaliah left the special appointment of Head Sheristadar vacant. It was conferred on Mr. Thumboo Chetty, after the opinions of several European Officers who were connected with the Administration were obtained, and they all unanimously voted in his favour. The following letter was sent by Sir Richard Meade soon after Mr. Thumboo Chetty's appointment:—

THE RESIDENCY, HYDERABAD,

1st June 1876.

DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—I was very glad to receive, this morning, your note of 29th May, informing me of your having been selected by Mr. Dalyell for the



GENERAL SIR RICHARD MEADE, K.C.S.I.

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important post vacated by the lamented death of Mr. Gopaliah. I have heard this news with much satisfaction. Mr. Dalyell consulted me regarding the selection of the new Head Sheristadar, and it gave me much pleasure to write in your favour. I have every confidence that you will do full justice to the duties of the office which must every day become of higher importance, and I heartily congratulate you on your getting it. There will be many envious hearts around you and it will behove you to be very cautious and circumspect, so as to avoid, if possible, increasing your difficulties on this head. I have been anxious, since hearing of Mr. Gopaliah's death, to convey to his family the expression of my great regret at the loss they have sustained. He was an excellent and most industrious public servant, and I always valued his services very highly. Will you do me the favour of letting his family know my feelings on the subject. Lady Meade joins me in wishing you all success in your new career, and with our kind regards, Believe me, Yours sincerely, RICHARD MEADE.

Acting up to the valuable advice given in the above letter, Mr. Thumboo Chetty worked hard along with that able and much respected Secretary, Colonel Tredway Clarke, and was held in high estimation by three successive Chief Commissioners, Mr. R. A. Dalyell, Mr. C. B. Saunders, C. B., and Mr. (afterwards Sir) James Gordon. The former Head Sheristadars were purely ministerial officers in charge of the Dufter or Revenue Records, whose chief duty was to collect statistics and information on all matters of importance and to submit the same, with their opinions, for orders. But, during Mr. Thumboo Chetty's tenure of office, he was, with the sanction of the Government of India, empowered

to assume the additional designation and functions of an Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner in the General Department. In this capacity he had the honour of being associated with such able Secretaries as Colonels Clarke, Puckle and Cole and Mr. (afterwards Sir Wm.) Cunningham. He was placed in immediate charge of certain departments, *i.e.*, Local Funds, Forests, Municipal, Muzroi, etc., and authorised to dispose of a great portion of the work which heretofore devolved on the Secretary.

During the dreadful famine of 1876—77, the preparation of the weekly famine reports and other statistics, which had to be submitted to the Government of India, was specially entrusted to Mr. Thumboo Chetty till the advent of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Charles Elliot, the Famine Commissioner. The famine had caused grievous and sore distress to an extent which was quite unparalleled in the history of Mysore. The Government had to face and fight the calamity at great cost, losing nearly one-fourth of the population. The Rev. Mr. Slater delivered a lecture on Famine. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, who presided on the occasion, made some interesting and useful remarks. After thanking the Rev. Gentleman for his interesting and instructive lecture on a subject which was then engaging the attention of a Commission appointed by Government, Mr. Thumboo Chetty spoke as follows:—

There was a diversity of opinion as to the causes of the famine and the remedial measures necessary to prevent its

recurrence. The primary and principal cause of the late famine in Mysore was the failure of seasonable rains and consequent enhancement of the prices of food grains. The dry grain cultivation of Mysore depended entirely on rain, and the wet cultivation on artificial irrigation from tanks and wells, which also required replenishing at times by bounteous showers from above. The rains are calculated according to the 27 Natchatras (constellations) and a single failure of rain at the appointed time caused a derangement in the ploughing and sowing operations, and caused also the enhancement of prices tending to famine. The rural population are generally half-starved, and the ordinary agriculturist is content to draw from the soil just as much as would satisfy the demands of Government and afford him a bare subsistence. He has no surplus to meet an unforeseen calamity like famine. He has little or no capital, the extent of his land is limited, and, at the very commencement of famine, his resources are exhausted. Such is the position of the majority of the ryots that even a slight deficiency in the produce of the soil, caused by bad season, is sufficient to bring about a famine. In 1801, the population of Mysore was about two millions; in 1857 it was three millions and a half; and in 1871, five millions. The land revenue of these years was 66, 58 and 72 lakhs respectively. Thus, in the course of about 70 years, the increase in population was about 150 per cent., while the land revenue increased by only about 10 per cent. If the produce of lands which yielded a revenue of 66 lakhs was sufficient in 1801 to maintain a population of two millions, the produce of additional lands since taken up, which yielded an extra revenue of only 6 or 7 lakhs, was certainly not sufficient to supply the demand of an increased population of three millions. It is evident that the improvement of agriculture had not in Mysore kept pace with the increase of population. Although the country is

rich in productions, its resources remain still undeveloped by the imperfect modes of cultivation. The ryot, once settled in a place, would not move out of it for years. He cares little for extension of cultivation, so long as he gets enough from the land he owns for the maintenance of himself and his family. No proper care is taken either to select the best soil or the most favourable situations. No proper regard is paid to a due rotation of crops; a number of articles are grown upon the same ground and at the same time to the injury of all. The mode of cultivation adopted is that which gives the ryot the least trouble and is attended with the smallest outlay. Thus, land is limited not only in quantity, but also in productiveness. This accounts for the impoverished condition of the ryots which aggravates famine. The recent introduction of the Land Improvement Act into Mysore is a great boon to the ryot, who might now obtain advances and loans on favourable terms, for the improvement of his land, and thus free himself from the clutches of the usurious money-lender, the Hindu Shylock. The extent of land occupied in Mysore was only about one-third of the whole area. Of the three elements of production—land, labour and capital—the last was wanting in Mysore. The opening up of railways, the improvement of internal communications and construction of large irrigation projects, etc., might be undertaken by Government, but the improvement of the soil must be left to private capitalists, of whom there are very few. In all Mysore, there is only one Jaghirdar who deserves the name; there are lots of petty Inamdars and Kayemguttadars who have not the means of improving their holdings. There are a number of Poligars and others who are actually penniless. The merchants, money-lenders and other speculators do not possess enough of wealth to contribute largely towards improving and increasing the resources of the country. I wish to see a greater overflow

of British capital into this country for the improvement and extension of the cultivation of cotton, mulberry, indigo, tobacco, coffee and sugar, and the formation of associations of labour and capital. I would also encourage the application of machinery to the cultivation of the soil. The windmill pumps, recently invented by Messrs. John Warner & Sons, Hydraulic Engineers in London, are expressly intended for village irrigation in India. One of them was fixed in Tanjore, where, with a moderate breeze, water was lifted up from a well 45 feet deep. There is economy, both in time and labour, in making use of such machines. Poverty was one of the causes of famine, also want of enterprise on the part of natives, who were retarded by prejudices of caste, by ties of family and attachment to their native soil from migrating to other parts of the world. Emigration was thus checked, leading to increase of population, without a corresponding increase of wealth and means of subsistence. These combined causes paved the way to famine, which was also a visitation of God. According to Job—"It is God who giveth rain upon the face of the earth. He bindeth up the waters in His clouds, and permits them to flow down upon the earth only in those places for which He designs them."—Man with his show of knowledge of science could not withstand the will of Providence, but, God willing, he might, by means of reason, skill and energy, devise means to avert famine, or, at least, to mitigate its severity. The effect produced on the minds of the people affected by famine was something marvellous. Every one thought that God alone could put an end to the calamity by sending rain, and everyone accordingly invoked the divine assistance and blessing. This good result was produced by famine.

In connection with the arduous duties which devolved on Mr. Thumboo Chetty, while he was

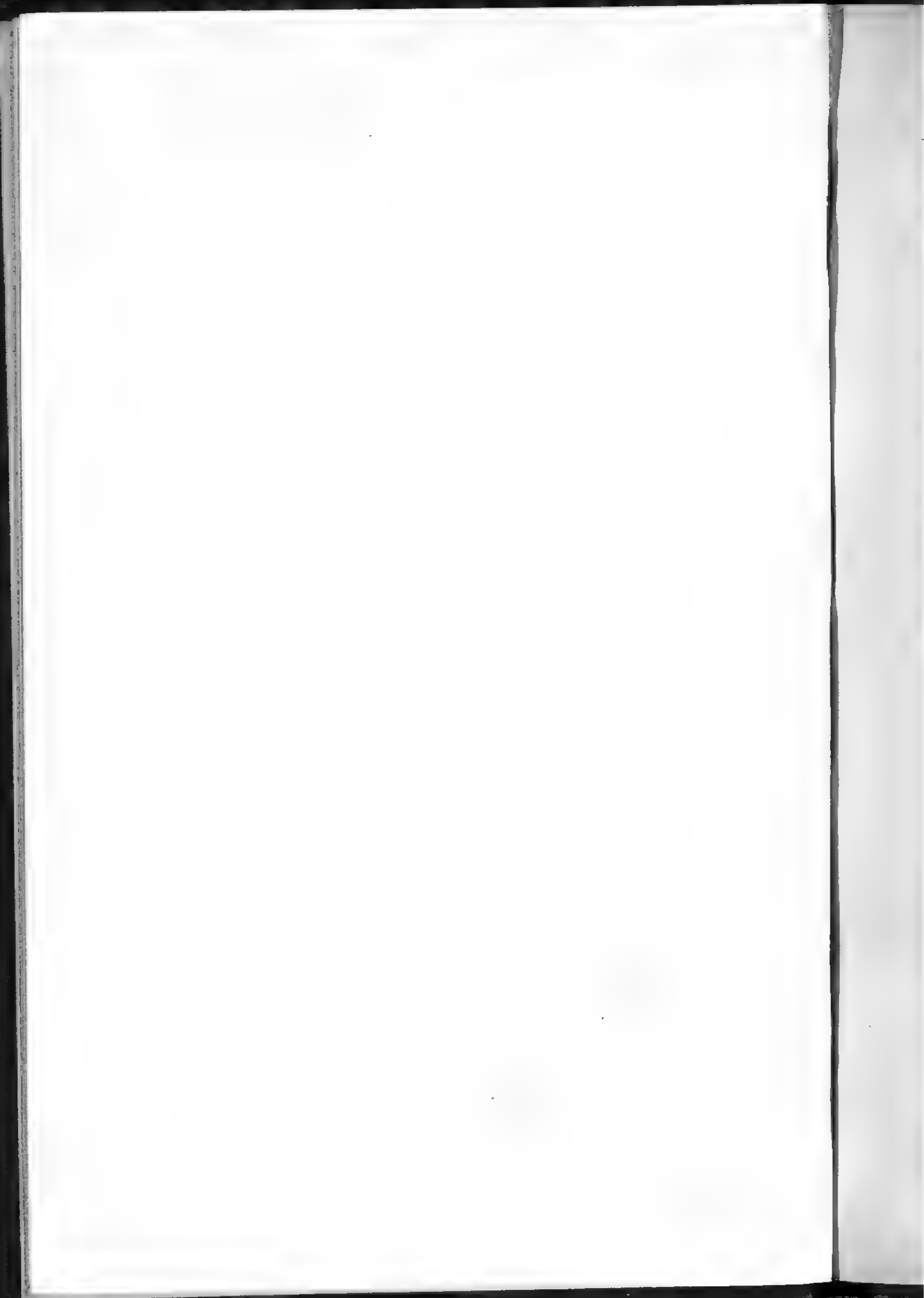
in the Government Secretariat, Colonel Clarke in a letter dated Shimoga, 3rd January 1880, wrote:—

I shall always retain a pleasing remembrance of the period—2½ years nearly—during which we were associated in the Secretariat, on account of the cheerful and efficient aid which was always forthcoming at a time when energies were strained to the utmost. As both Head Sheristadar and Assistant Secretary, the heaviest share of the work fell upon you: but I do not fancy that either of us would care to go through again the labours of those two famine years.

The famine expenditure, which cost the State nearly 160 lakhs of rupees and involved the Government in a debt of 80 lakhs, necessitated the formation, under the orders of the Supreme Government, of a Committee of Officers to consider and report as to what reduction in expenditure was feasible and what additional taxation was possible to meet the financial deficit caused by the famine. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, as a member of the committee associated with other officers, had to deal specially in regard to reductions in each of the following departments:—Education—C. A. Elliot, Esq., T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, Esq.; Judicial—Colonel J. L. Pearse, H. Hudson, Esq., T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, Esq.; Jail—Colonel J. L. Pearse, Major C. S. Moncrieff, T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, Esq.; Police—B. Krishniengar, Esq., T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, Esq.; Military—Major R. C. Stewart, H. Hudson, Esq., T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, Esq. Altogether a reduction of about ten



COLONEL TREDWAY G. CLARKE



lakhs in expenditure was effected on the general recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee.

Subsequent to his appointment as Assistant Secretary to Government, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was blessed with a fourth son, who received his father's name. He took the B.A. degree of the Madras University, taking Sanskrit as his second language.

On 1st January 1877, there was a Durbar in the Public Offices at Bangalore for conferring certificates of honour in commemoration of the Delhi Assemblage on the assumption by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria of the title of Empress of India. The difficulty at all these durbars has always been the issue of invitations to those entitled to be asked to attend. There was some confusion on this occasion, and to ensure preparation, in future, of correct lists, the principles indicated in the subjoined letter were suggested by Colonel T. G. Clarke to Mr. Thumboo Chetty and acted upon :—

4th January 1877.

MY DEAR SIR,—It is necessary we should have, without further delay, a carefully prepared list of Bangalore residents—non-officials, who are entitled to be invited to durbars on special occasions. The list should comprise, as regards natives, those who are in the position of native gentlemen, *i.e.*, merchants on a larger scale and members of learned professions, also retired officers of Government. Those among the number entered in the list who are on the rolls of Assessors should be distinguished by the letter P (Punchayetdars).

Mr. Thumboo Chetty, owing to famine duties, was prevented from attending the Delhi Assemblage held on 1st January 1877, but he was presented with a certificate of honour on that day, when, in the durbar referred to above, Sir James Gordon addressed him as follows :—

For the past two and twenty years you have well served the State ; unaided, you have risen, through your high ability and equally high character, to the honourable and responsible position you now occupy. By the intelligent, upright and thorough discharge of your duties you have well earned this recognition, which it gives me sincere pleasure to bestow in the name of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India.

The Delhi medal was subsequently presented to him at Bangalore by Lord Lytton in person.

During Sir Richard Meade's Chief Commissionership, the establishment of a class of Attachés for the Mysore State was sanctioned. The correspondence on this subject is published at page 123 of the Parliamentary Blue Books relating to Mysore. It was intended to select from among the best educated youths in the families of the Mysore Province most entitled to consideration on account of high position or eminent service, Probationers or Attachés to be trained for employment in the higher grades of the Commission. Under this system, some of those now filling important positions as District Judges, Collectors and Councillors received their preliminary training in the Chief Commissioner's Office while Mr. Thumboo Chetty

was Head Sheristadar and Assistant Secretary. The principle underlying the Attach system had been, to a certain extent, recognised in the scheme for the Mysore Civil Service Competitive Examination introduced in 1891, under which His Highness the Maharajah retained the prerogative of nominating as Probationers a certain number of persons in addition to those selected by competition. Mr. Thumboo Chetty's views on this new scheme will be found in a separate chapter headed 'Miscellaneous.'

In connection with the reorganization of the Mysore Education Department, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was in favour of (1) the separation from the High School and College Department of all classes below the 4th form, and their formation into an Anglo-Vernacular School; (2) the appointment of separate professors in the Central College for teaching Mathematics, Physical Science, Biology, Philosophy and other branches required for the B. A. Degree Examination, so as to avoid the necessity for Mysore students proceeding to Madras to take up those branches for which provision existed in the Bangalore College; (3) the abolition of the Engineering College, which was unnecessary for a small province like Mysore, as students from Mysore who evinced special aptitude for Engineering may be deputed to the Madras Engineering College and awarded scholarships for the purpose; (4) the appointment of a qualified Native Officer in the Mysore Service as the Director of Public Instruction. Almost all the above sugges-

tions made by Mr. Thumboo Chetty while in the Secretariat for the consideration of the Chief Commissioner have been gradually carried out since.

CHAPTER IX.

DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE.

Soon after the cessation of famine, the measures to be adopted for substitution of Native for the British Administration in Mysore engaged the attention of the British Government, as the time for the transfer of the country to the Maharajah was fast approaching. As a preliminary measure, Mr. Runga Charlu, C.I.E., the Controller of the Palace and Dewan-elect, was transferred as Revenue Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, and the changes made in consequence in the Government Secretariat led to the appointment of Mr. Thumboo Chetty as District and Sessions Judge. In making his recommendation to the Government of India on 21st April 1879, Sir James Gordon wrote as follows:—

Mr. T. R. A. Thumbco Chetty, Head Sheristadar and Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, has had considerable experience in Judicial work, both since his advent to this province and formerly when employed in the Madras Presidency. He is an officer of conspicuous ability, great industry and deservedly high character. These qualifications, manifested throughout a service of more than 20 years, combined with judicial aptitude and experience, point to him as, without doubt, the fittest Native Official in the province to be appointed to the important post of



C. A. Minnicothy



District and Sessions Judge. As stated in para. 36 of the Minute, Mr. Gordon proposes to appoint Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty on a salary of Rs. 1,200 per mensem: the salary he has drawn for the past three years is Rs. 800 per mensem.

He was the first native appointed to this high and important office, which was formerly held by a European Division Commissioner, and he was the first Indian in Southern India who was empowered to exercise the power to sentence a criminal to death. He discharged the duties of the new appointment with commendable ability for about five years. He was called in occasionally to sit with the Judicial Commissioner to decide important appeals under certain rules framed by the Government of India, which afforded him an opportunity to further distinguish himself so as to ensure his elevation to a seat on the Bench of the future Chief Court, the establishment of which was then under contemplation. Numerous were the congratulations which Mr. Thumboo Chetty received on his appointment as District and Sessions Judge, and notably amongst them was one dated 27th May 1879 from the late Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer, who was then District Magistrate of Tumkur. It ran as follows :—

Allow me most heartily to congratulate you upon your promotion and to express my sincere hope that you will yet rise higher and occupy the highest judicial seat in the province.

One of the most important cases heard by the Judicial Commissioner with the aid of Mr. Thumboo Chetty was connected with the Yelandur Jaghire. The judgments delivered in that case are reported at page 210 of the 2nd Volume of the Mysore Law Reports. This litigation led to the subsequent passing by Government of 'The Yelandur Jaghire Regulation, I of 1885,' so as to prevent from alienation the jaghire granted to Purniah, to regulate its succession, and to maintain the grantee's descendants in a status of respectability, ease and comfort. It will be seen from the following note that Mr. Thumboo Chetty's advice was availed of in connection with this enactment :—

19th April.

MY DEAR SIR,—Mr. Kristna Murti wishes to explain to you section 2 of the Yelandur Regulation as drafted by him to provide for succession to the jaghire. If you will kindly discuss it with him, it will probably enable us to decide about this *particular* section. Mr. Kristna Murti will bring both drafts.—Yours very sincerely, K. SHESHADRI IYER.

The original draft was modified considerably after consultation with Mr. Thumboo Chetty.

CHAPTER X.

RENDITION—SENIOR COUNCILLOR.

At the rendition of Mysore, which took place on the 25th of March 1881, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was appointed *ex-officio* Senior Member of His Highness



C. A. Mumboo Chetty

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the Maharajah's Council, under a proclamation, of which the following is a copy :—

We have further resolved that a council shall be formed to be styled 'The Council of His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore,' which shall consist of the Dewan, for the time being, as *ex-officio* President, and of two or more Members to be specially appointed by us from time to time. It shall be the duty of the Members of the said Council to submit, for our consideration, their opinions on all questions relating to Legislation and Taxation, and on all other important measures connected with the good administration of our territories and the well-being of our subjects. We are, accordingly, pleased to appoint Cettipuniam Veeravalli Rungacharlu, C.I.E., *Dewan, ex-officio President*; Trichinopoly Royaloo Arogheaswamy Thumboo Chetty, *Judge, ex-officio Member*; Poorna Krishna Rao and Attupakam Ratna Sabapathy Mudeliar, *Members*, to be Members of the said Council to hold office, as such councillors, for the term of three years, or during our pleasure. Given under our hand and seal at Mysore, this 25th day of March 1881.

The rendition followed fifty years of British rule, and, in referring to it, the Honourable Mr. J. R. Kindersley wrote as follows to Mr. Thumboo Chetty in a letter dated 1st January 1881 :—

When the Province is given over to the Native Administration, it will be interesting to watch the progress of that administration, and the native authorities will feel that the eyes of all India will be upon them. Everything will depend on the maintenance of good faith. There will be no great want of ability.

This sentiment imparts the lofty views and feelings of one who was at the head of the Judicial Administration in Mysore prior to the rendition. When, for the first time, His Highness Chamrajendra Wodayar Bahadur was seated on the golden throne of Mysore, he was greeted with numerous congratulatory addresses from various bodies and associations, to which most suitable replies were given. The address by the Catholic community, presented by His Lordship Dr. Coadou, was in excellent Latin. It was a unique address full of meaning and good sense. A translation thereof in English was read by Mr. Thumboo Chetty. The address, with the reply of His Highness thereto, is given below :—

TO HIS HIGHNESS CHAMRAJENDRA WODAYAR BAHADUR,
MAHARAJAH OF MYSORE.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

On this most auspicious day, when, for the first time, Your Highness holds the sceptre of your kingdom, and the reins of Government are entrusted to the guidance of your youthful hands, with how glad a heart does this dense throng, your subjects, present to Your Highness an offering of their duty and their loyal congratulations. We also, the followers of the Catholic religion, neither small in number, nor certainly the last in devotion to Your Highness, respectfully welcome our Prince and Ruler. For your Highness, we foretell a happy reign, and we cherish the hope of a prosperous kingdom; and, according to the command of our religion, we pray to the One God, who directs the hearts of Kings and sways the sceptres of Kingdoms,



HIS HIGHNESS
SRI CHAMARAJENDRA WADIAR, G.C.S.I.

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for all good things in your behalf. And now, as we see you, for the first time, seated on the throne, we are reminded of that king, who, like Your Highness, at a tender age, received the Government of a Kingdom, namely, King Solomon, who, as with youthful and inexperienced hand and with anxious care he grasped the sceptre, prayed to God that He would help him in his fears. God was pleased to hear his prayer, and appeared to Solomon in a dream, saying 'Ask what thou wilt that I should give thee' And Solomon said 'O Lord God, thou hast made thy servant King instead of David my father; and I am but a child. Give, therefore, to thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, and discern between good and evil.' And the word was pleasing to the Lord, that Solomon had asked for such a thing And the Lord said to Solomon 'Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life, or riches, but hast asked for thyself Wisdom.

. . . Behold I have given thee a wise and understanding heart yea, and the things also which thou didst not ask, I have given thee; to wit, riches and glory, so that no one hath like thee among the kings in all days heretofore.' We also pray with our whole heart and beseech God that He may grant that Wisdom with which He enlightened the heart of King Solomon. May HE grant you so to rule that your reign may be a reign of peace and justice; so to govern that, under your auspices, the good may walk without fear in the path of righteousness, and the bad may be frightened out of their evil ways. May God grant that, as the throne on which you sit is of refulgent gold, so may Your Highness be resplendent with the virtues which become a king. May God grant that, during your reign, the Ministers who help you with their counsel and stand round your throne may walk in the ways of justice, and that the people subject to your sceptre may

enjoy undisturbed peace and happiness. And, for all these blessings on your Highness, I, their Chief Pastor, pray in the name of the 26,000 Catholics who live under your sway.

Reply of His Highness :—

LORD BISHOP AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CATHOLIC
MISSION,

Those who labour in the cause of religion are always a help to Government, and your religion especially may well be credited with inculcating principles of peace and loyalty on the minds of the people. The 26,000 Canarese Christian population of my territories peacefully and zealously following their industrial occupations without any collision with their fellow-countrymen of other faiths bear testimony to the fact how, while propagating your faith, you sacredly avoid breaking down social institutions or impairing mutual good-will. Permit me, my Lord Bishop, to assure you of my support and sympathy in your disinterested godly work. I am touched by the piece of Jewish history quoted by you. I assure you that trust in God and submission to His Will have ever ruled and shall ever rule the conduct of my family and myself, and I look to that High Power for my help and guide and for crowning with success my endeavours in the good government of my country and of my people.

At the rendition of Mysore, His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Mr. Adam, represented Lord Ripon, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India. Mr. J. D. Sandford was the First Chief Judge under the new regime. Mysore very much regretted the demise of Mr. Adam and the severance of Mr. Sandford's connection with the State

so soon after His Highness' installation as will be seen from the following letter of Mr. Runga Charlu to Mr. Thumboo Chetty :—

FERN HILL, OOTACAMUND,
25th May 1881.

MY DEAR THUMBOO CHETTIAR,—You will have heard of the sudden death of His Excellency Mr. Adam. It fills all our minds with great sorrow. I am sorry there is a likelihood of our losing Mr. Sandford. He is the very ideal of a perfect judicial officer. I do not know if we can get another at all equal to him.—Yours very sincerely, C. RUNGA CHARLU.

Shortly afterwards, there also passed away a worthy citizen of Bangalore, Govindu Chettiar, the founder of that commodious and useful chattram near the Cantonment Railway Station, and the first recipient in Mysore of the title of 'Rai Bahadur,' an honour which he well deserved for his munificence and charities. Subsequent to the rendition, it became necessary to withdraw the Mysore prisoners from the Andamans, and this is referred to in the following letter :—

MYSORE, 21-9-1882.

MY DEAR THUMBOO CHETTYAR,—I am very sorry to hear of the sudden death of Govindu Chettyar. He seemed to be always in good health. I am writing to the Resident to reply that we can take all the Port Blair convicts. There are only some 200 of them to come.—Yours very sincerely, RUNGA CHARLU.

Persons now sentenced to transportation are not sent across the sea, but kept in the Central Jail.

at Bangalore to undergo imprisonment. A sentence of transportation passed by the Mysore Courts is now virtually one of imprisonment, and has not that deterrent effect contemplated by the Penal Code.

Mr. Runga Charlu, as Prime Minister, had the executive control of the whole administration.

Mr. Thumboo Chetty considered himself very fortunate in having commenced his political career under the auspices of this distinguished statesman. But Mr. Runga Charlu was destined not to live long. He took ill suddenly and left Bangalore for Madras, and unfortunately he did not return. On the 26th December 1882, just on the eve of his departure, he wrote a letter to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, the concluding portion of which is given below. This was the last of the many letters Mr. Thumboo Chetty had the good fortune to receive from his valued friend:—

MY DEAR THUMBOO CHETTIAR. I am at last going to-night, and, with His Highness' permission, I am asking Vijayendra Rao to send to you any important papers requiring disposal, with reference to which you may also conveniently see His Highness now and then. I am going for ten days or a fortnight.—Yours very sincerely, C. RUNGA CHARLU.

Poor Mr. Runga Charlu died after a very brief illness at Madras on the 20th January 1883. His loss was deeply deplored by all, and was felt most keenly by His Highness the late Maharajah.

Shortly after his demise, a public meeting was convened, presided over by the Chief Judge, Mr. C. G. Plumer, at which a resolution was adopted, expressing deep sympathy with the family of the deceased. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, in moving the above resolution, referred briefly to Mr. Runga Charlu's whole career, and paid a high and well deserved compliment to his intellectual and other qualities. He said that the deceased was universally regarded as a man of talents, a man of principle and a man of character. The adjustment of the Palace debts, the revision of a huge pension list, the examination, arrangement and custody of the valuable palace jewellery, the remodelling and reduction of Palace establishments, and the settlement of various other matters connected with His Highness' household, entailed immense trouble and labour. He accomplished this very delicate and most difficult task with great tact and perseverance. In short, under his control, the Palace was like a rusty piece of gold melted and purified of its dross. He assisted materially in moulding a youthful Maharajah into a model ruler of five millions of subjects, in bringing about His Highness' moral, intellectual and physical development, and in teaching him the art of Government. The Palace administration under him was admittedly a perfect success, and, as the results proved, most beneficial both to the Sovereign and the State. His transfer from the Palace as Secretary to the Chief Commis-

sioner and Revenue Commissioner took place in May 1879, and in March 1881 he became the Dewan. He introduced several administrative measures and reforms. The formation of the Council, and the convention, annually, of the representative landholders and merchants to discuss matters relating to the administration may be regarded as the bulwark of the future constitution of Mysore. The settlement of coffee lands on an acreage system and the abolition of the *halut*, which was open to great abuse, was a measure acceptable to the planters, and, in the long run, profitable to Government. The grant of half remission on wet lands lying waste, and the sub-division of inconveniently large survey fields into fields of convenient size, are measures calculated to afford relief to the ryots and to prevent repeated relinquishment of lands. The cardamom cultivation in Munzerabad, which, for some time, was neglected, was revived. The manufacture of iron sugar-boilers in all the districts was encouraged by the grant of certain concessions to the manufacturers. Lands were granted on very favourable terms to the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association, in order to promote the laudable objects of the Association. The grant of scholarships to students desirous of joining the Engineering and Medical Colleges at Madras and passing the required examinations was sanctioned to enable them to qualify themselves for the higher appointments in these two departments of the

service. Within the short period of twenty months, during which Mr. Runga Charlu held the office of Dewan, he did a good deal to improve the administration. At a time when the public treasury was empty, he had the political boldness to raise a loan for extending the Railway from Bangalore to Mysore, and—to quote his own words—he regarded the opening out of the province by means of railways as a necessary preliminary to the development of its resources. The improvement of the various industries, on which the prosperity of the country depended, engaged his frequent attention. His sentiments with regard to local self-government, which he so ably propounded at the Dusserah Meeting, showed how anxious he was to foster and improve the municipal and village institutions of the province and to establish and perpetuate good feeling between the government and the governed. Throughout all the varieties of the business connected with administration, he was prompted by a sacred sense of duty. He was actuated by no other principle than that the interests of the Government were identical with those of the people. By his high character and sterling integrity, he exercised a wholesome influence on all the officers subordinate to him, and over whom he had always a watchful eye. He made every one understand that merit without honesty was of no avail, and that merit combined with honesty was the sure passport to promotion and advancement.

He was really a friend of the ryot. Even the poorest man had access to him to set forth his grievances personally. He was the trusted leader of His Highness' Council, and a most worthy representative of the aggregate dignity of that body. Mr. Thumboo Chetty concluded his speech thus :—

The usefulness of a Dewan does not cease with his employment. Although poor Runga Charlu has ceased to exist, yet the reforms he has introduced and those he intended to introduce, and his minutes and proceedings will survive as lights and landmarks to the successor of this eminent statesman. On these his fame and reputation will endure and stand with the generations that are to come. On these his monument is founded, and on these his memory will live. Were it possible, at this moment, to make the lamented deceased hear, I would say to him in the words of the poet :—

Thou art a monument without a tomb,
And art alive still while thy writings live,
And we have wits to read and praise to give.

The delay of two or three weeks in the appointment of a successor to the deceased Dewan gave room for a good deal of speculation and sensational writing. The leading journal of Madras (*The Mail*) gave publicity to a letter from an English officer in regard to the relative claims of the then several aspirants to the Chief Ministership, from which the following extract is subjoined :—

Of the candidates in the field, Mr. Krishna Murti represents the old Mysore party, Mr. Seshadri Iyer, the Mad-rassi official party now in power. Both these gentlemen

are able men, with ideas as advanced as those of the late Dewan. The chances are, therefore, strongly in favour of one or the other of these two candidates. They are both Brahmans. The third on the list is Mr. Thumboo Chetty, a man who has filled with honour the highest offices in Mysore, and whose only further advancement now could be to the Dewanship. He may be said to be the independent candidate, the nominee of no party, but universally respected; the eminent Judge, who has made his way to his present position by sheer integrity and hard work in spite of every disadvantage of creed and caste. In religion he is a Roman Catholic, that is to say, his broad sympathies lie with the mass of the people of Mysore.

The *Indian Mirror* wrote as follows:—

We hope a proper man will be selected by the young Maharajah of Mysore in succession to the late Mr. Runga Charlu. Whether he be a Mysorean, a Madrassi, a Parsi, a Bengali or a Mahratta is of little moment, so long as the man selected is the right man in the right place.

After some delay and suspense, it was announced that Mr. Seshadri Iyer was appointed Dewan. Mr. Thumboo Chetty was the first to congratulate him and received the following reply, some of the remarks in which refer to an unfounded rumour that was spread at the time to the effect that the religion he professed was a bar to his appointment as Chief Minister:—

BANGALORE,

18th February 1883.

MY DEAR SIR,—I cannot thank you sufficiently for your warm congratulation and good wishes. No one appreciates

and respects your personal feelings more than I do, and this you probably already know from what I and others may have said to you and from my action in the matter. I shall indeed be very glad to have a long conversation with you on this and other matters. Believe me, always yours very sincerely, K. SESHADRI IYER.

The above is a kind and sympathetic letter. It indicates all that is high in intellect and pure in feeling for which the late Dewan was remarkable. Colonel Clarke, in one of his letters to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, dated 29th February 1884, wrote :—

After holding the post of Head Sheristadar of the Chief Commissioner's office so long with distinction, your claim to the Dewanship was a very strong one, and I should have been glad indeed to have seen you filling that post, but possibly you may find reason to console yourself it was not to be. The post is one which, we so often see, exposes the occupant to attacks and intrigues from which the highest integrity and most conscientious line of action is not free, and it is possible that honours may be obtained by the sacrifice of that which is still more valuable—peace of mind.

What Colonel Clarke has written is unquestionably true. There is always comfort and consolation when one meets with disappointment in the course of the changing scenes of life.

Subsequent to Mr. Seshadri Iyer's elevation to the Dewanship, Mr. Thumboo Chetty occupied the same position as before, *viz.*, Judge and *ex-officio* Senior Member of Council. Though he had to



SIR K. SHESHADRI IYER, K.C.S.I.

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push his way through a labyrinth of difficulties, he was determined not to flinch. He had the self-possession and masterly execution of an experienced official. The combined duties of Judge and Councillor kept him very fully engaged, but such was the activity of his mind that it seemed to require neither repose nor any other stimulus than a delight in its exercise. His motto was :—

The more we do, the more we can do ; the more busy we are, the more leisure we have.

As Councillor he came more frequently in contact with the people of Mysore. There was every kind of political agitation, the result of party feelings and the conflict of a variety of principles, passions and instincts. He had to surmount great difficulties in the course of his new official career ; but the love of truth and a disinclination to act in opposition to the interests of justice and humanity enabled him to steer clear of all difficulties. He was proud to have as his colleagues in Council Messrs. A. R. Sabapathy Moodelliar and P. Kristna Rao, who were of advanced age, ripe experience and sound judgment. In January 1882 Mr. Thumboo Chetty was blessed with a fourth daughter, Baghavathy, who, by her accomplishments in music, contributed materially to his domestic happiness and recreation during leisure hours.

As a Councillor, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had

Measures relating to taxation.

Measures of legislation.

Annual Budget Estimates of receipts and expenditure.

Annual Administration Reports of the several departments.

Appointment and removal of District Officers and District Judges and of officers of rank superior to them.

Remission of judicial sentences.

Prosecution of public servants in cases requiring by law previous sanction of the Local Government.

Annual Budgets of the Public Works Departments and questions relating to the organization of that department.

Questions relating to the organization of the Military Force.

All other important propositions relating to the internal administration of the Province requiring reference to the Government of India.

And any other matters upon which His Highness the Maharajah may wish to have the views of the Council.

frequently to submit his views on important administrative measures specified in the margin, which he did conscientiously and fearlessly without, in any way, allowing private feelings to interfere with public functions, endeavouring his very best to give weighty consideration to all matters placed before

him. It was Mr. Thumboo Chetty that first mooted, before the rendition, the question of the desirability of having a council to aid His Highness the Maharajah in carrying on the duties of the administration. In his note, dated 16th April 1877, he wrote as follows :—

The only way of perpetuating this native dynasty and securing its stability would be by inducing its ruler to be guided by the aid and advice of a ministry composed of intelligent and respectable officers of the state, selected from different departments, without reference to caste or

creed. His Highness will be greatly benefited by the valuable aid he will derive from the members of such a ministry, who will be men of varied experience and undoubted integrity and possessing conspicuous ability and talents. His Highness will, of course, be the guiding spirit and President of the Council. His Highness must have certain prerogatives specially conceded to him as a Sovereign, but, in matters of general administration, he is expected to yield to the well-considered advice or opinion of his experienced ministers, as, in a multitude of counsellors, there is wisdom.

In a letter, dated 14th April 1886, Mr. Thumboo Chetty addressed Mr. Seshadri Iyer as follows :—

MY DEAR SIR,—The other day we were talking about the constitution of the present Council. I have just come across an old memo. of mine, dated so far back as 16th April 1877, and it will perhaps be interesting to you to read para. 6 thereof (extract given above) in which I have very strongly advocated the formation of His Highness the Maharajah's Council The sooner something is done to improve the present constitution of the Council, so as to make it really a useful institution, the better. In addition to the Executive Council, which may consist of three members besides the Dewan, we might have half a dozen non-official representatives of the different sections of the community as additional members of the Council for legislative purposes.

In reply to this, Mr. Seshadri Iyer wrote :—

MY DEAR SIR,—I return, with thanks, your memo. Our difficulty is about the men. The *ministry* in your memo. must be an Executive Council. I shall only be

delighted to have such a Council. Where are the men ?
Never mind the cost, which really is only a subordinate
matter

Further correspondence led to the passing of the additional rules, under which all appeals to Government were directed to be disposed of by a Committee of two Members of Council or by the Dewan and one of the Members; difference of opinion, when the Dewan is not on Committee, being decided by the Dewan or the remaining Member of Council. This arrangement was calculated to command respect and confidence and worked well; the first two members who invariably constituted the Committee were the Hon'ble Mr. P. Chentsal Rao, C.I.E., and Mr. Thumboo Chetty. As regards the formation of a Legislative Council, the matter was held in abeyance. The country is probably not yet prepared for such an institution which, Mr. Thumboo Chetty thought, must sooner or later be established, if Mysore is to keep pace with the progress of the British Institution of a similar kind, essentially necessary to ensure the just rights and happiness of the subjects. As to the general character and usefulness of the Mysore Council, prior to the Regency, we have a fine touch of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's own experience noted in his scrap-book, of which the following is an extract:—

The Council meetings never at any time presented scenes of stormy struggle. Occasionally when questions involv-

ing difficulty of solution cropped up, the course of debate was, no doubt, troubled and vehement, but rarely violent. The appearance of the Council was always grave and dignified, and opinions formed on subjects, which required considerable expenditure of thought, were the results of mature judgment and varied experience. It was indeed Mr. Runga Charlu's and Sir Seshadri Iyer's good fortune to have had, as their colleagues in Council, men who had seen the world widely and well. The key to the Council is the Chief Secretary. In every native administration the Council ought to be assisted by a good and capable Chief Secretary, possessing an extraordinary strength of principle and thorough business habits. The Chief Secretary's appointment is one of great importance and responsibility, as he has to work immediately under the orders of the Dewan and Councillors. A Chief Secretary must, necessarily, from the nature of the duties devolving on him, be one who had been in Mysore for some time, with large and varied experience of the work of almost all the important branches of the administration, and thoroughly acquainted with the habits, manners and wants of the people. In short, he must be one who will be in touch with the people and be the safety valve of the administration. A Mysorean, with the necessary qualifications, would certainly be preferable to an outsider. Native States are now attracting more public attention than before. In them, we have a train of Indian ministers and statesmen of conspicuous ability, tact and prudence, who are able to sustain and carry on their arduous duties and who have distinguished themselves beyond the expectations of European observers and critics. But they must always be conscious of their shortcomings and defects and prove to be progressive, so that they may be followed by men everywhere their superiors.

Sir James Gordon was the first British Resident at the time of the Rendition. Unfortunately for Mysore, there had been a too frequent change of Chief Commissioners and Residents, as will be seen from the following list :—

Chief Commissioners.

Mr. L. B. Bowring, c.s.i., February 24, 1869.

Sir R. J. Meade, k.c.s.i., February 31, 1870.

Mr. R. A. Dalyell, Officiating, April 1, 1875.

Mr. C. B. Saunders, c.B., April 1, 1876.

Mr. J. D. Gordon, c.s.i., April 1, 1878.

British Residents.

Mr. J. D. Gordon, c.s.i., March 25, 1881.

Mr. J. D. Sandford, M.A., B.L., May 1, 1882.

Mr. J. B. Lyall, June 8, 1883.

Colonel T. G. Clarke, Officiating, December 17, 1884.

Mr. A. H. T. Martindale, Officiating, May 21, 1885.

Mr. C. E. R. Girdlestone, C.S., Officiating, June 2, 1885.

Mr. J. B. Lyall, B. C. S., May 26, 1886.

Mr. D. Fitzpatrick, c.s.i., C. S., Officiating, March 20, 1887.

General Sir H. N. D. Prendergast, k.c.B., **V.C.**, R.E.,
Officiating, October 10, 1887.

Colonel Sir O. B. St. John, k.c.s.i., R.E., January 15, 1889.

Major C. W. Ravenshaw, Acting, May 6, 1891.

General Sir H. N. D. Prendergast, k.c.B., **V.C.**, R.E.,
Officiating, June 2, 1891.

Colonel P. D. Henderson, c.s.i., April 15, 1892.

Colonel H. Peacock, Officiating, July 11, 1893.

Colonel P. D. Henderson, c.s.i., October 12, 1892.

W. Lee-Warner, Esq., M.A., c.s.i., February 20, 1895.

W. Mackworth Young, Esq., c.s.i., September 18, 1895.

Colonel Donald Robertson, December 7, 1896.

Mr. J. A. Crawford, Acting during Colonel Donald Robertson's leave for a short time.

The British Residents, writes Mr. Thumboo Chetty, have been the mainstay and support of Native States in India. It has been vaguely and without sufficient grounds asserted, in some quarters, that, occasionally, the display by the Resident of personal character and too much of interference has placed the Native Ruler in a somewhat uncomfortable predicament. But, in this respect, my long experience emboldens me to say that Mysore has, on the whole, been singularly fortunate in having had as the representatives of the Paramount Power talented statesmen of unexceptionable character, who were not at all wanting in that frame of mind which exhibited sound reason, simplicity and kindness in their public connections and private friendships, as well as in gentlemanly uprightness and unbiased independence of spirit and who invariably afforded that hearty co-operation and friendly support necessary to promote the mutual interests of the Paramount Power and of this Protected and Progressive State of Mysore.

As regards the Regency Council, see the remarks in Chapter headed 'Miscellaneous.'

CHAPTER XI.

CONNECTION WITH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Amidst his multifarious official functions as Judge and Councillor, Mr. Thumboo Chetty made it convenient to lend his assistance and co-operation to many public and private institutions, either as a member or trustee or president, and, in the respective spheres of the self-denying duty he had to accomplish in these institutions, he showed a solicitous concern and was most useful and popular. The benefits derived will not be forgotten by those whose lot it was to share them during the continuance of his association and direction.

With the *Friend-in-Need Society*, whose object is the relief of deserving poor of all classes and the suppression of mendicity, and to which is attached the 'Girdlestone Ward,' intended for paupers suffering from incurable or chronic diseases, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was connected as member and vice-president for more than 30 years. He, at times, rendered material assistance to the Honorary Secretary as the following letter shows :—

BANGALORE, 27-7-1887.

DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—I return the book you kindly sent me and enclose draft of the letter concerning European vagrants I propose sending the Resident. I think it embodies all your recommendations. I have not a copy

of the Act ; so, in numbering the sections, have been guided by your memo. We are to have a revision committee next Tuesday at half-past seven. Mr. Picken and yourself have been named as members. I hope you will be able to be present, as we shall much need your services. I looked in this morning on the chance of seeing you.—Yours sincerely W. N. WROUGHTON (Colonel).

P.S.—Tell me if you would add anything to my draft. In legal matters my experience is very small, and I am thankful for advice.—W.N.W.

Rai Bahadur Dharma Ratnakara A. Narrainsawmy Mudeliar's Charities consist of a High School, a Technical School, two Primary Branch Schools for caste pupils, a Primary School for the Pariah or Tirukulathar classes, a Girls' School and an Orphanage. Mr. Thumboo Chetty had been the President of the Managing Committee and a Trustee of these Charities since 1873.

In 1883 a Fund, called *The Devaraj Bahadur Charity Fund*, was, by order of His Highness the Maharajah, entrusted to a committee, of which Mr. Thumboo Chetty was appointed President, for the improvement of Sanskrit and Vernacular literature and for the advancement of education in directions in which adequate provision did not already exist. A great impetus was given to the education of widows and to their being trained to the profession of schoolmistresses, and for study of Vernacular literature. No less than 20 widows have passed public examinations, some obtaining Teachers' Certificates. On one occasion, the

prize of Rs. 300, offered by the Trustees to the person who passes the M. A. Degree examination, taking up two Dravidian languages—Kanarese and Tamil—was won, in December 1892, by R. A. Narasima Char, M.A., the first Mysorean who obtained the distinction in the whole of the Madras Presidency. After Mr. Thumboo Chetty resigned the Trusteeship, in March 1901, the committee wrote to Government as follows :—

We here take the opportunity to express our deep sense of appreciation of the wise and valuable advice and co-operation, as one of the Trustees, of Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., who performed the functions of President of that body ever since the D. B. C. Fund was started. It is much to be regretted that he resigned his connection with this Trust, owing to his absence from Bangalore on his retirement from service. The Trustees take this opportunity to express their high sense of thankfulness to Mr. Thumboo Chettiar for his invaluable co-operation and guidance in the discharge of their duties in administering the Fund.

In the matter of *Female Education*, from 1881, when Her Highness the *Mysore Maharani's Girls' School* (now a college) was started, Mr. Thumboo Chetty evinced a great desire for its progress and co-operated heartily with Mr. Rai Bahadur A. Nursim Iyengar, to whom the institution chiefly owes its origin, splendid success and advancement, as the following letters to Mr. Thumboo Chetty will show :—

MY DEAR SIR,—I send per bearer, for your kind perusal, the Visitors' book of the Maharani's Girls' School,

Mysore. The remarks of the Lord Bishop of Madras and of Mrs. Lyall, who spent about two hours in closely inspecting the school, are very good. The remarks of the last visitor in the book are from the Reverend Hawkin, the Head of the Wesleyan Mission at Mysore, who has several small schools there. He has admitted that he saw several good things in the system adopted in our school which he would gladly copy. It will, I believe, please you to see what good work we are doing under your guidance. About other matters I shall submit to you an account of our progress in a month. I am, yours very sincerely, A. NURSIM IYENGAR.—Bangalore, 2nd January, 1884.

MY DEAR SIR,—After my experience of the past few years in the cause of female education, I have arrived at the conclusion that, in order that female education may be a success, it is necessary to secure competent native lady teachers, and this is, I am happy to say, exactly what you have often remarked. And the only way I could find towards attaining that end I have put down in the accompanying memorandum submitted for your approval and sanction. Dr. and Mrs. Duncan, of the Madras Presidency College, who visited the Maharani's Girls' School, were quite pleased with it, and have recorded in the Visitors' book their favourable opinion of it as the best school in Southern India. . . . I remain, yours very sincerely, A. NURSIM IYENGAR.—Mysore, 16th Oct. 1884.

Extract from a letter dated 16th January 1900, from Miss RIDSDALE, Lady Superintendent, Mysore Maharani's Girls' School, to Mr. Thumboo Chetty:—

I realise how much our school owes to your kind interest and support. I am sure you will be glad to learn that I have just seen a telegram stating that six out of our

seven English Lower Secondary candidates have passed. This is cheering, as it will materially strengthen the High School Department.

Mr. Thumboo Chetty was for several years one of the official visitors of the *Lunatic Asylum in Bangalore*, the average strength of which was between 100 and 150. The discharge of some of the inmates occasionally, when completely cured and pronounced to be free from danger, was a difficult and responsible task that devolved on the official visitors, which entailed very careful enquiry and sound judgment. There is no place which required such immense care and management as a lunatic asylum. The disordered states of mind of the inmates render it extremely difficult to procure attendants able to move with the turbulent lunatics and keep them under control. It is, however, remarkable that even in such an asylum, with varying degrees of insanity in those confined, it has been found possible by commendable tact to get them to work within the asylum and to weave cloths, carpets, etc.

The Mysore Insurance System, which is restricted to the lives of officials of the State, was inaugurated in 1891. The insurance was optional in the case of officials who were already in the service on the date of the introduction of the system, and compulsory in the case of those entering the service after a certain date (1st December 1891). The business connected with the scheme is managed

by a committee of officers, with the Comptroller as Secretary. Mr. Thumboo Chetty was on the committee up to his retirement from the Mysore service. The system is working well, and the funds are invested in Government securities. In fact, it is a Government Institution whose stability is ensured by Government control and the rules from time to time framed by it. Public servants are enabled under this scheme to secure substantial provision for themselves after retirement or for their families after their death on payment of premium fixed at about 10 per cent. of their salaries.

As Councillor in charge of the Education Portfolio, Mr. Thumboo Chetty, now and then, took part in several public meetings and in the distribution of prizes in colleges and schools, and some of his public utterances, which will be briefly referred to here, were remarkable for good sense and thoughtful reflection. Though opinions may often differ, yet when they are well meant and sincere and given expression to in the cause of reform and progress without regard to sect or party, they deserve appreciation. In 1886, when addressing the students of the Saint Joseph's College, at the annual distribution of prizes, Mr. Thumboo Chetty spoke as follows :—

There is one peculiarity connected with this institution which deserves notice, namely, an admixture in it of European, Eurasian, Hindu and Mahomedan lads, who

read, converse and play together, shaking off their racial and caste prejudices. Such a promiscuous gathering in school and the education of the feelings and dispositions of pupils of different sects and castes from an early age is calculated to promote the good feelings that ought to subsist between them and strengthen the bond of union which would materially contribute to their future happiness and prosperity. The principal object of education is not simply to improve the intellectual and active powers of the mind, but also to form the social character for this world. Even after leaving school, each student should put himself through a second course of tuition termed self-culture. Mind and morals must act together, so that a student may never be corrupted and seduced from virtue. The present system of education is in one respect defective. No doubt, there is rapid advancement in knowledge, and, in one sense, in freedom also; but true freedom consists in not merely acquiring knowledge theoretically, but also in learning something practically, so as to enable one to help himself by means of his own industry. Both the public service and private institutions are limited in the number of employees. The legal and other learned professions are already overcrowded. The Medical, Engineering and other departments, including Railway, Post Office and Telegraph departments, could not provide employment for the very large number of youths leaving school annually. What is the remedy? It is absolutely necessary to introduce technical education in schools, so as to cultivate a taste for arts and manufactures, and to induce a large number of the students, as they leave school, to become labourers in the field of science and industry. The employments of life are no doubt various, so that every one, be his talents great or small, may be usefully employed, but every one must take care not to attempt what is

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beyond his reach. Every one should endeavour to do what is suited to his own genius. If there is any hereditary occupation which one wishes to cling to, let him do his best to improve and develop it, so as to make it lucrative. Drawing is one of the fine arts, and the study of good drawings would be useful in many ways and contribute also to the growth and improvement of the mental character. Some preliminary training in Painting, Pottery, Sculpture, Architecture, Carpentry and Jewellery would be very useful before quitting school. The introduction of a system of practical teaching in the principles of agriculture is also desirable. In one of the Madras papers it was announced that in Ceylon in almost every Government, Vernacular or Anglo-Vernacular school, theoretical agriculture was taught. The students were trained in the school compound in the use of new ploughs. Where there was no compound sufficient for agricultural experiments, a piece of land was allotted to each school. Some such arrangement might be made in Mysore to enable wealthy pupils to acquire a sufficient taste for agriculture, so that they may in after-life become gentlemen farmers. Man, in his primeval state, was put into the Garden of Eden to dress it and keep it. In India, although labour is not wanting, yet the required capital is not forthcoming. It is not so much the want of capital as the want of enterprise that is a bar to the progress of industry. Labour produces capital, or rather lays the foundation for it. A portion of what is lavishly spent on marriages and ceremonials and on jewels might well be set apart and utilized for starting some useful industry. When once capital, however small, is created, it has a marvellous tendency to increase. Lord Kimberly, in his speech, delivered at the first meeting of the Royal Commission for the collection of Indian exhibits, spoke very favourably of India's products and industries.

His Lordship said :—

There is, perhaps, nothing more desirable for India than that its products and industries should be well known in this country, although we have much more to learn from them than to teach them. Their beautiful manufactures, which they have produced for so many ages, have proved that there is a knowledge of many branches of art which it would be a thousand pities should be diminished under our rule.

His Lordship added :—

I have often been struck with the calamity of the introduction of our taste into Eastern arts and manufactures, for their taste is far better than ours, although, we have no doubt, English knowledge and skill and the command of capital will be of advantage to them, and I cannot conceive of any advantage greater than that the two countries should be brought together.

These words of His Lordship were full of meaning and deserve weighty consideration. Every one who had carefully watched the progress in India of Western education and civilization must admit that the ancient arts and industries of the country had been greatly, if not altogether, neglected. The study of English and the acquirement of higher education had naturally induced the educated and well-to-do classes to aspire after Government situations, while the poorer and uneducated classes, who clung to their old professions, made little or no progress ; hence, the gradual depression of the manufacturing industry of the country, which could only be revived and developed by the hearty co-operation of the more intelligent, educated and well-to-do classes. I therefore exhort you students to learn some useful art or industry, so that in the event of your aspirations for Government or private

employment not being realized, you may independently help yourselves by choosing some particular branch of industry suited to your capacity and taste.

Since the establishment of the Government Central College at Bangalore, the first native gentleman who had the honour of presiding at the annual distribution of prizes was Mr. Thumboo Chetty. This took place on 20th July 1892. His speech on that occasion contained some significant remarks as noted hereinunder :—

There was, he said, want of provision for residence of the students from the Districts, who were at present exposed to all the discomforts and dangers of life, in putting up in miserable hotels in Bangalore. That was a matter in which private charity ought to step in and aid the Government to some extent in doing the needful. It was not possible for Government to meet all the requirements in this direction. The utmost the Government could be expected to do was to provide the building ; and the internal management of the hostels ought to rest with a committee of representatives of different castes under the general supervision of the Principal. The boarding fees ought to be so regulated as to defray all charges without entailing any extra expense on the State. The percentage of race and creed given in Mr. Cook's report showed that the number of Mahomedan and Native Christian pupils who attended the college was small. The Native Christians of Southern India were, however, slowly coming to the front. The Christian College at Madras and the Catholic Colleges in Trichinopoly, Bangalore and Mangalore were doing much good work to promote the intellectual advancement of Native Christians. But in the case of

Mahomedans some special encouragement was necessary. Their poverty was the chief cause of their being kept in the background, and an increase in the number of scholarships and the extension of some special State support seemed desirable in their case. The general work of education in Mysore was in a rapid course of improvement, and everywhere were perceivable marked indications of a great thirst after knowledge. From 1872 to 1880, a period of nine years, only 12 graduates passed. In 1881 seven and in the following year four obtained the Degree. From 1883 up to the present year, during which the college had been under the able management of the present energetic Principal, the number of graduates that passed was 115 or five times as many as in the preceding 11 years. It was a significant fact that, prior to the Rendition (1881), the number of graduates was only 19, while subsequently the number rose to 191. The retrospect was interesting. Much had yet to be accomplished in imparting both general and higher education to the natives of Mysore, with a view to ensure the highest and noblest attainments in the distinctive requirements of the various relations of life. In His Highness the Maharajah the subjects had a wise and noble ruler, who evinced much interest in all matters relating to education, which was a strong proof that His Highness was fully alive to the right and paramount duty of the State in what deeply concerned the felicity of His Highness' beloved people. Mr. Thumboo Chetty had no desire to approach the great controversy with regard to higher education; but, as Mr. Cook had alluded to it in his report, he ventured to offer one or two passing observations on the subject. He fully endorsed the view taken by Mr. Cook that, so far as Mysore was concerned, there had not yet been such over-development of higher education as to justify the discus-

sion of the broad question, whether higher education should be imparted wholly at the expense of Government or whether it should be left to the Missionaries and other private agencies. It must be admitted that education, as a Government measure, was a necessity at the first stage of society, but, as society progressed and the educational wants assumed a magnitude which could not adequately be met by public funds available for the purpose, education must cease to be a Government measure and become a popular institution. Mysore, however, had not yet passed the first stage. The education of the masses was still at a very low ebb. Female education was just beginning to show some progress, and it would take very many years before woman's true elevation in the scale of society was realized by the Hindu community. In 1853 the first agitation was made in Madras, when petitions were sent to the British Parliament in England, claiming the assignment to natives of India of a large share in the administration as well as legislation. Since then a great change had been wrought. Local and Municipal Funds were now administered by Municipal bodies and District committees selected from among the people with a small admixture of official members. In the Imperial and Local Legislatures, the people were represented by a certain proportion of non-official members. Under the Statutory Civil Service Rules some of the higher appointments of the country, heretofore exclusively reserved for Civil Servants sent out from England, were now thrown open to Natives. The new Indian Councils Bill, which had recently been passed, provides for a considerable increase in the number of non-official members chosen from the people. Only the other day, the whole of India rejoiced to learn of the election of Mr. Dhadabai Naoroji to represent Central Finsbury in Parliament. All these augur well for

the future of India. The Indians must gratefully acknowledge the liberal policy of the British Government towards them. The higher appointments in India were now open to them. They were allowed to take a share both in Administrative and Legislative work. Even the doors of the British Parliament were open to them, provided they proved themselves, by their intellectual and moral qualities, worthy of these large concessions, which a noble British constitution, prompted by a sense of natural justice and a liberal policy, had been pleased to accord to the natives of India. The rising generation, while enjoying all the blessings of an efficient system of public instruction, should employ their talents and learning to promote the physical and moral good of their countrymen, to defend the cause of virtue and to help, as far as lay in their power, the great movement intended to ameliorate the moral and social condition of their countrymen by giving it the best direction.

On the Madras Christian College Day being celebrated, on 31st December 1895, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was one of the 'Absent Friends,' whose toast was proposed, to which the following reply was sent :—

I beg to tender, on behalf of *all* 'Absent Friends,' their most sincere and cordial thanks for the toast which has been so kindly proposed. Personally, I feel highly honoured by the compliment paid in associating my name with that toast. The allusion to 'Absent Friends' is the most gracious, because those unavoidably prevented from attending have many claims on the friendly remembrance of those who are able to attend and personally take part in the celebration of the anniversary. I am, therefore, pleased

to acknowledge gratefully the toast and to wish continued prosperity to the Madras Christian College. There is no sentiment more natural to thoughtful minds than that of reverence to the institution to which they owe the education of their moral feelings, as well as of their intellectual faculties. Everywhere we now see the dawn of a better day. On all sides there are signs of a rapid course of improvement and development, the result, no doubt, of education. Custom and tradition no longer rule men's minds. It is to the dictates of our higher moral faculties—to the moral law written by God in our hearts—that we must look for help and guidance. On the education of the feelings, as well as of the intellectual faculties, depend the future excellence and real happiness of the student. The foundation of improvement in this respect rests, in a great measure, on the individual character of those entrusted with the dignified and onerous task of educating the young. In this view the Madras Christian College deserves prominent notice. In point of popularity and usefulness, it is second to none in Southern India. As one of the oldest pupils of the institution, which has now developed itself into a huge college, I have seen many of the zealous Missionaries—the original founders of that institution and their excellent and able successors,—pass away; but the fruits of their disinterested labours continue to immortalize their fame. Their monument is to be found in the laudable anxiety of their hearts to promote the development of the faculties of the youths entrusted to their care, and also in their example, conversation and behaviour, all of which contributed powerfully to form the future character of their students. Each of the distinguished gentlemen connected with the management of the institution was, in himself, a power—a mental and moral system complete in itself. Although they have

ceased to exist, their genius and virtue and their labours in the cause of education still speak with a voice that is sufficient to keep alive the fires which they have kindled. Education goes on through life, and it is desirable, therefore, that we should, from our infancy, be taught to know what we would do and what we would not do. Education may enable a person to get on in this world, it may make him a good man of business and clever in his profession and be also the means of obtaining wealth and all that wealth can bestow, but the attainment of real happiness depends on the development and proper direction of all the faculties, with the view of choosing good and eschewing evil, so as to enlarge our heart, widen our sympathies and compel us to do that which is right and kind to all. Herein lies the end and aim of true education. This is the substratum upon which everything that is excellent in the Christian College is founded. The College has made a stupendous progress under the best regulated system of training and under the able management of the Honourable and Rev. Dr. Miller and other eminent Missionary gentlemen associated with him. Dr. Miller has laboured hard and for a long series of years, and has a claim on the gratitude of our generation and of posterity too. In wishing, therefore, that the College will go on and prosper as heretofore, I beg also to add the fervent hope that Providence may be pleased to bestow on Dr. Miller, for many years to come, life and health, to enable him to further promote the interests of the College.

A meeting of the principal inhabitants of the city of Mysore was convened in the Rangacharlu Memorial Hall, Mysore, on Wednesday, the 24th February 1897, with a view to adopt measures to collect funds in aid of the Indian Charitable Relief

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Fund. The Dewan commenced the proceedings and addressed the meeting and announced to the audience that Her Highness the Maharani Regent, C. I., was pleased to contribute a sum of Rs.10,000 to the fund. He then called upon Mr. Thumboo Chetty to move the first resolution,—

That a Committee be formed to raise subscriptions in the city and province of Mysore in aid of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.

In doing so, Mr. Thumboo Chetty said that nearly 20 years ago he took part in a meeting of that kind, and, by a strange coincidence of events, he found himself placed in the same predicament that day, with this difference, that, on the former occasion, he had to plead for the cause of Mysore, when it was visited with a famine of the worst type ever witnessed. He had now to plead for the cause of the sufferers from the famine, which was raging in those parts of Northern India, from which Mysore derived much help during that grave crisis of 1877. The present famine threatened to be one of large magnitude, covering a large area and involving a greater degree of distress and suffering than was the case in 1877. The deepest sympathy was felt by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, by the British public in particular, and by all the countries having commercial relations with India. In short, the sympathy on account of the present calamity was universal. Under these circum-

stances, and after the able and eloquent speech of the Dewan, and after the announcement of the handsome contribution which Her Highness the Maharani Regent had been graciously pleased to make in aid of the Famine Fund, it required no great effort on his part to enlist the sympathy and co-operation of those present towards carrying out the object of the meeting. During a famine, it imposed upon those who had to meet it work of a twofold nature, a work of labour and a work of love. On the Government devolved the paramount but difficult and laborious duty of relieving, under certain rules and conditions, distress which made itself known. With the general public rested the freer and easier work of love and charity, having for its object the relief of such distress as lay concealed or hidden from a variety of causes, and which could not be reached or overtaken by the efforts or operations of the Government. It was to relieve such inostensible or dormant distress that private charity would be most invaluable. He could not do better than quote the words of Lord Connemara, who had very clearly and forcibly explained, at a recent meeting of a committee of the Mansion House Fund, the necessity for private charity during a famine, in these terms :—

While the Government accepted the responsibility of saving life, there were other objects which private charity alone could reach, such as providing small comforts for the aged and infirm, the maintenance of orphans, the succour of poor respectable persons who would endure

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any privations sooner than apply for Government relief, the help of those whose domestic privacy must be considered as sacred, and in giving the poor a fresh start when the acute stage was abating. All these objects showed that there was a vast field for private charity, apart from the bare operation undertaken by the Government of keeping body and soul together, and he knew that the munificent help rendered by the people of this country would be much welcomed and have a great effect in India.

What Lord Connemara had so graphically described was confirmed by one's own experience of the disaster caused by the famine in India. Although the world was unhappily divided into numerous sects and parties, yet, in the matter of one's duty to his fellow creatures, there had never been, and there will never be, any difference of opinion as to the enforcement of that wholesome precept enjoined by humanity :—

Be kind to the poor and those in distress and suffering; consider their cause and befriend them in the hour of need.

This was a precept which was universally acknowledged and practised without reference to caste, colour or creed, for God had planted pity for the sufferers in the heart of man, and it was this fine feeling which constituted one of the best gifts of Heaven. Therefore, to relieve distress and suffering, prompted by this good feeling of pity—which was a natural instinct in man—was the duty imposed on all at all times, and more especially when the afflicting hand of the Almighty was felt in the shape of a famine or pestilence. It was then

that the genuineness of one's sympathy and love for his fellow-creatures was practically tested. It was then that one was afforded the greatest of all opportunities to do what was the most admirable of all charities, the contribution of one's mite to save the suffering and relieve those in distress.

Mr. Thumboo Chetty presided at a public meeting held at Bangalore on 31st July 1899, to congratulate Mr. Paranjpye, as the first Indian Senior Wrangler. The speech delivered by Mr. Thumboo Chetty on that occasion embraced many important points relating to education. He said that there was universal rejoicing owing to the display by Mr. Paranjpye of his intellectual riches in Mathematics, and by his winning the rare distinction of 'The First Indian Senior Wrangler'. His comparative young age (23) imparted additional lustre to his grand achievement. The spirit of the age was never so fully manifested as in its praise of Mr. Paranjpye. Foremost among his admirers was no less a personage than Lord Curzon himself, the highest representative in India of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, under whose benevolent and munificent rule immense impetus was given to education in general, as also to the highest branches of knowledge, and under whose auspices any one, from any part of the globe, irrespective of his nationality or creed, had the privilege of competing not only for

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academic honours in England, but also for the Indian Civil Service and other examinations. With a commendable degree of candour and kindly feeling Lord Curzon congratulated the Ferguson College and its distinguished pupil in these terms :—

The Viceroy desires to congratulate you, as the Principal of the Ferguson College, upon the brilliant success attained by a former pupil Mr. Paranjpye of the college in carrying off the blue riband of English scholarship. Such a triumph is a wonderful tribute both to the teaching of the college and to the capabilities of the most highly trained Indian intellect.

The happy effects of the exertions of the teacher, remarked Mr. Thumboo Chetty, continue to complete the development of the education of the youth. Lord Curzon, therefore, very properly and justly paid a compliment to the Principal and the Professors of the college in which Mr. Paranjpye made a good beginning, and congratulated the pupil on his glorious success, which depended partly on his early school habits and partly upon his diligent labours and steady perseverance. There had been a wonderful change in the educational condition of India since the issue, by the Court of Directors, of their despatch of 1854; but the authors of that memorable despatch could scarcely have anticipated the probability of an Indian youth competing with success for the highest honours in England. With the progress of English education, there had also been a gradual

but steady growth of a real desire on the part of Indian youths to form their minds upon European models and to prosecute studies which comprised a course of higher education, thereby succeeding in coming up, as nearly as possible, to the European standard. The desire was natural and ought certainly to be encouraged. Mr. Thumboo Chetty referred with pleasure to the early prospect of the Mysore Government being able to afford suitable help, by way of post-graduate scholarships, out of a fund called 'The Damodaradoss Charity Fund,' to enable selected graduates to prosecute post-graduate study or research of an advanced scientific or technical character in any University or other institution in India or outside it. These scholarships were intended to be conferred on the best graduates of Indian Universities, and it was hoped that the Mysore graduates would come up to the required standard and avail themselves of the same.

At the celebration of the Madras Christian College Day on the 26th December 1901, Mr. Thumboo Chetty, who presided, said that having received his education in, and claiming, as he did, fellowship with the alumni of the Madras Free Church Mission Institution the nucleus of the present Christian College, it afforded him no small pleasure to undertake the task entrusted to him that evening. During his school life, he admired the zeal and self-denial that animated the late

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Rev. John Anderson, the original founder of the institution, and his early associates, who, in imparting to the then rising generation a sound and liberal education, in training the intellect, and in diffusing the influence of truth and morality, considered carefully every part of the pupil's nature, physical, intellectual and moral, and regarded the last as paramount to either of the others. Their disinterested exertions and solicitude for the intellectual culture and formation of the character of the young entrusted to their care were, indeed, remarkable and eminently successful. Sir Charles Trevelyan, one of the most popular Governors of Madras, bore testimony to the fact that many of the ablest native officers that adorned the public service of the Madras Presidency in his day were educated at the Mission schools, of which the Free Church Mission Institution was then the foremost. Personally, Mr Thumboo Chetty was able to testify that many of the leading officials in the Mysore State and some of the members of the Mysore Ruling Family were indebted to the Madras Christian College for their education. Even in the matter of Female Education, it was the Rev. John Anderson that gave it the first vigorous start in the very heart of the town of Madras. Referring particularly to the distinguished veteran educationist, the Honourable Rev. Dr. Miller, the chief ornament of the assembly, Mr. Thumboo Chetty said that the Rev. gentleman's indefatigable exertions

for nearly four decades, his energy of mind, strength of moral purpose and richness of intellectual provision, made the Christian College what it now was and secured for it a wide-spread fame of an enduring character. The merit of Dr. Miller's labours in connection with the College was of so substantial and transcendent a nature that those who praised him most highly spoke of him with most truth. And to quote the words of the Poet :—

“ Nothing can cover his high fame but heaven ;
No pyramids set off his memory
But the eternal substance of his greatness.”

There was, Mr. Thumboo Chetty observed, great conflict of opinion on the various problems connected with the course, character and results of the University education. It was said that the percentages of passes, especially in the Matriculation examination, were not very satisfactory. This was due, Mr. Thumboo Chetty thought, not solely to reforms needed in the prevailing system of tuition, but also, in a measure, to the great diversity in the intellectual capacity of youths. With varied powers of the mind, one may excel in one thing, others in other things, and some in all things. Although the generality of candidates selected for examination may well be qualified, yet, it not unfrequently happened that for one that passed, three or more sustained the mortification of being rejected, simply because the latter were somewhat wanting in superior quickness of

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memory. He was, therefore, not disposed to attach much importance to the mere passing of examinations. The lights of Heaven shone upon the earth with different degrees of lustre. All were not suns, all were not stars of the first magnitude, and yet they were agreeable and useful in their respective places. Likewise, though the recipients of education may vary in their attainments and brightness according to the natural extent and perfection of their literary studies in general, yet each, in his own sphere, constituted not an unimportant factor in a progressive state of society, justifying the old adage, that "the life of an individual is a miniature of the life of a nation." Owing to the necessity for passing the public examinations by special preparation, there was naturally much of cramming, which was unavoidable; but what appeared inexcusable was, that it was difficult to get our young men to study anything which had no immediate bearing on these examinations. Out of the time necessary for the bulk of the students to master the subjects prescribed for the University course, very little remained for the acquisition of general knowledge, or to carry education to a more desirable state of perfection. This needed reform. Whatever may be the defects of the existing system, it must be admitted that the Indian Universities, on the whole, had already proved a great success and a blessing. The march of improvement was perceptible every-

where. The torch of learning that had been held up was ablaze, expanding its vital flame in all directions and producing a widespread enlightenment and intellectual activity. This was evidenced by the large number of undergraduates and graduates that passed out of the colleges annually. The Indians were reaping the benefits of Western learning and civilization. Many of them had risen high in the public service. Even in the commercial line, it was by means of English education that many had grown opulent and risen to eminence. It would be disastrous to think of any retrograde policy, by which the further progress of higher education was likely to be retarded in the slightest degree. In the knowledge of a theoretical kind there was a steady advance, but little or no aptitude was shown for scientific work or research. There was a remarkable deficiency in practical ingenuity, and a great lack of progress in the industrial arts. India was rich in its metals and minerals. Its agricultural productions were valuable and improvable. There was a vast extent of land of extraordinary fertility available for the employment of knowledge, skill and enterprise. The rich resources of the country could more properly and profitably be developed by being brought under the power of machinery. To keep pace with the progress of other nations, and to acquire wealth, it was essential that technical education and the application of science to the

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practical arts should be encouraged on a more extensive scale. There was a general consensus of opinion on this point. During the regime of his Excellency Lord Curzon, one of the greatest Viceroy India had been blessed with, it was hoped there would be a considerable expansion of both general and technical education and a revival of India's ancient elegant arts and useful science, with all the modern improvements effected by Western learning and invention. It was hoped also that, following the noble example of Mr. Tata, of Bombay, private benefactions would step in to supplement, in a measure, the liberality of Government. As regards popular education and female education it was observed that more than 94 per cent. of the entire population was without education ; and the percentage of females who were literate, as compared with that of the literate males, was considerably lower. Popular education must aim at securing, in the first instance, a competent knowledge of the vernaculars, and afterwards make the English language the universal object of study. A general diffusion of learning among the masses of both sexes could only be successfully and speedily effected through the medium of their mother-tongue. This would gradually lead to the revival of a pure vernacular literature and create a healthy and genuine public opinion, which was now wanting owing to the great gulf that intervened between the educated few and the densely

ignorant mass. This improvement would ensure public criticisms being based on sound understanding and offered in an unprejudiced and dispassionate tone, obviating the necessity for Government censorship. Popular education must be comprehensive enough to reach the village communities, who form, as it were, the backbone of the country. In addition to primary and secondary education now given in villages, some special instruction in agriculture and the primary arts of necessity would be a great boon to ryots, traders and artisans who constitute the bulk of the village communities and enable them to improve the system of husbandry and the productive powers of their lands, to increase their local manufactures, to develop their commercial capabilities and to assist the Government in the maintenance and preservation of the village tanks. Great care and discrimination must be used in the selection of text books for schools. Sir William Lee-Warner had rendered good service in the compilation of that admirable work, *The Citizen of India*. Nothing would assist the improvement of education so much as good books. We must look to our graduates to assist us in the spread of popular education, to teach the agriculturalist the importance of applying chemical knowledge to the improvement of the soil, and to induce the artisan to adopt better mechanical contrivances and tools to meet increasing demands and to realise greater profits. Female

education was in a very backward state. There was a time when Indian women were remarkable for their intelligence and refinement, and by their action, character and sentiments improved the virtuous sensibilities of their age. Now, unfortunately, there was a great deterioration, and it was by education they could hope to regain their original position. With the numerous sub-divisions and trammels of caste and the seclusion to which the females were subject, it was not possible to educate them at once to a very high standard. For the present, such instruction may be imparted as would enable them to qualify themselves as teachers in primary and secondary schools established for their sex, and for employment on the good work contemplated by Lady Dufferin's Fund and the Women's Victoria Memorial Fund, started by the praiseworthy and philanthropic exertions of Her Excellency Lady Curzon and the patriotic movement of Lady Harnam Singh. The withdrawal of girls from school at a very early age was admittedly a bar to their progress. Zenana teaching should be largely resorted to; but the requisite agency, with the necessary qualification and reputation, was not readily available. In Mysore, with the liberal support accorded by Her Highness the Maharani-Regent, a separate college was established for girls; and widows belonging to respectable families were being trained in it, as well as in other branch institutions, for Zenana and school teaching.

This was a step in the right direction and worthy of imitation. In Southern India, the Brahmin and Native Christian communities had excelled the other classes in the matter of female education, but the day was not far distant when intelligent girls of all classes would, like Mrs. Sathianadan, M.A., and Miss Krishnama, B.A., compete successfully for University honours. The outline of female education, recently sketched out by Mrs. Annie Besant, was no doubt excellent; but some of the suggestions were not quite practicable, as they involved a somewhat reactionary and radical change in the present system, which was being worked on different lines for very many years. The scheme suggested was, however, worthy of consideration, as it aimed at a very high ideal of perfection. In one of his recent utterances, Sir Antony McDonnell, with his characteristic candour, remarked that, in India, Social Reform must precede Political Reform. Mr. Thumboo Chetty quite agreed with him, but thought that no real social reform was possible without the intelligent co-operation of the female members of Hindu families who exercised prodigious, if not sovereign, influence in domestic matters, and who were the first promoters and the strongest ties of social life. Such co-operation, Mr. Thumboo Chetty emphasised, could not be secured until they were sufficiently educated and made to think liberally, to soften their prejudices and consent to all innovations needed in our com-

mon interests. Hence the necessity for the simultaneous education of the two sexes and their joint elevation in the scale of society. It was indeed a melancholy circumstance that young men, notwithstanding the systematic physical exercise they underwent in school, lacked good physique and broke down prematurely. The girls were given away in marriage at a very early age. Both these evils, Mr. Thumboo Chetty suggested, could only be removed by deferring or postponing marriage among all castes till the contracting parties had sufficiently developed themselves in body and mind, so that the wife might be the real companion and friend of her husband. This was, in his opinion, the greatest of all reforms most urgently needed, and one that would prepare and pave the way to all other reforms, about which there was now more talk than real action. He did not wish to enter into a discussion of the broad question of Political Reform mooted by Sir Antony McDonnell; but would content himself by saying that an inordinate desire for preferment, which was a sign of weakness, was undesirable, that too lofty an ambition was a sin by which even angels fell, and that it would be prudent to wait till Government, on a consideration of fitness, thought fit to confer upon Indians distinctions and offices higher than those now open to them under the benign British rule. In the meantime, he said they should show a greater progress in their political education

and a greater capacity for work connected with the Local Self-Government scheme inaugurated by that true friend of India, Lord Ripon. With regard to the vexed question of social intercourse between Europeans and Indians, it seemed to him that the general aspiration, if any, for any social intercourse on terms of equality with Europeans, whose modes of life were so widely different from their own, was rather premature. The Indians, he remarked, should first try and remove the estrangement which now unfortunately existed as between the different castes of Hindu society. He would exhort the learned Brahmin, the chivalrous Kshetrya, the rich Vysya and the plodding Sudra to unite together in promoting this most desirable object. Till they were prepared to hold gatherings of their own for the exchange of friendly feelings, it was unreasonable to expect reciprocity in this respect between themselves and Europeans. They must wait till a greater growth of knowledge, civilization and wealth, all combined together, produced such a change in their circumstances as enabled them, *as a nation*, to conform to the more refined tastes and habits of the West. The Indian educated ladies, though few in number, had already had unmistakeable proofs of the cordial friendly feelings entertained towards them by their European sisters. With such genuine sympathisers and well-wishers as Her Excellency Lady Ampthill and

Mrs. Benson and others, Mr. Thumboo Chetty hoped for further improvement in this respect. Of late, there was a strong desire to impart religious education to children. One could not conceive a more important matter than this. Some moral and religious influence was necessary to mark the progress of children, not only in useful knowledge, but also in pious feeling and correct conduct. This was a matter in which the Government could not interfere or change its present *neutral* policy. It was left to each sect to do what was deemed beneficial to children. So far back as 1874, he (Mr. Thumboo Chetty) had the honour of serving on a committee appointed to examine and report on the text-books used in all schools in Mysore and Coorg. In reviewing the report of that committee, the then Head of the Administration, Sir Richard Meade, K.C.S.I., stated that, while the dogmas of religion were properly excluded from Government schools, there was no reason why a work, embodying in it lessons on the existence of a Supreme Being, rewards for virtue and punishment for vice, injunctions to truth, piety and godliness, the duty subjects owe to the State, to themselves and humanity in general, and similar truths approved by all religions, should not be introduced and taught in all schools. Mr. Thumboo Chetty was glad to find that there was some agitation in this direction on the part of the principal leaders of Hindu Society. If it was possible to evolve from the Vedas and Puranas and other

Hindu works of antiquity a coherent system of Hindu religious belief, or Articles of Faith, and a clear exposition of the leading principles of morality, such a compilation would be quite welcome and useful in imparting purely edifying instruction to the young, whether in school or at home. Moses, the great law-giver of the Hebrews, very wisely pointed out that there was but one source of happiness for all mankind, *i.e.*, the favour of God. This, Mr. Thumboo Chetty said, ought to be the true end of education, or rather the ultimate object to be gained by any system of education. The *Bangalore Daily Post*, referring to the above speech, made the following observations :—

“ We feel sure that all who have, at any time, known Mr. Thumboo Chettiar, whose name is so well known in Mysore and Southern India generally, will have read his excellent address at the Christian College on Thursday with special interest. It is entitled to unusual weight and consideration from the circumstance that the speaker gave utterance to his views from the mature experience of the scholar and the statesman and untrammelled by official restrictions of any kind. Mr. Thumboo Chettiar relinquished the responsibilities of State about a year or so ago, and it was a very happy thought to have taken the first best opportunity to lay his views on Indian problems of to-day from the point of view of the administrator, who has had, *par excellence*, the best opportunities of judging men and measures from a lofty ideal of both before rising India. We have been most favourably impressed by the key-note of his speech, namely, that popular education in India must first aim at securing

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a competent measure of knowledge in the vernaculars, and afterwards make the English language the universal object of study ; and by the advice that an inordinate desire for preferment was undesirable, and that it was prudent to wait till Government saw fit to confer upon them distinctions and offices higher than those now open to them under the benign rule of the British Government. That was the pith of his speech, and it was plainly put. The examination mania and the craze for State employment have reached a stage at which the State is compelled to pause and consider, and this—the need of revising the educational system of India—has become one of the profoundest problems of the day. It is in good hands, and we may reasonably hope that the day is not far distant when the learned official profession will be largely superseded by the scientific cultivation of the technical arts and result in producing not only a wealthier class of people, but that state of agricultural and industrial prosperity which India enjoyed before her sons were smitten with what has now become an inconvenient infatuation. Mr. Thumboo Chettiar's address deserves to be widely read and dispassionately assimilated, as the opinion of a man of sound common-sense and independent judgment. This country would be all the better for it if its shining lights, like the eminent Native Christian, whom the Mysore and the Imperial Governments have delighted to honour, were more free from official restrictions than they usually are, to address their countrymen on the needs of the country and the best means of supplying them without laying themselves open to charges of preposterous ambition."

The *Hindu*, in its issue dated 27th December 1901, wrote as follows :—

"The Annual General Meeting of the past and present students of the Madras Christian College was held yesterday evening under the Presidentship of Raja Dharma Pravina, T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E. Besides the usual toasts connected with the College, general topics of education supplied secondary themes for the speakers to dilate upon. The Chairman criticised Indian University education in a kindly way, and observed that, on the whole, our Universities were a great success and a blessing. It is needless to recount to our countryman the benefits of higher education, of which the Chairman was, in himself, an emblem. He, by the way, had so far profited by the fruits of Western culture quite half a century ago in that institution, whose sixty-fourth anniversary was celebrated yesterday, that during these long years he was enabled to render invaluable services to the Government of Mysore, in which he rose to the highest position. But for the higher education we are receiving, on Western lines, we should have missed to-day the mark of progress that we meet with among us. But this, by no means, should blind us to recognise faults and shortcomings in the system as it is at present. It was remarked that the present day University education was sound only from the commercial point of view, in that it enabled the graduates merely to become cheap and efficient clerks. The charge that there was no training in the methods of research is indeed a well-grounded one. Equally well-founded is the charge of overmuch cramming practised by our youths, to meet the unfortunate exigencies of our system of examinations and passes. The Chairman advocated that, as sufficient aptitude had not as yet been shown for scientific research, it was necessary that technical education and the application of science to industries and arts should be encouraged on a large scale. Another very important point the

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Chairman called attention to was that our system of popular education is not comprehensive enough to reach the village communities who formed, as he put it, the backbone of the country. Too much stress cannot be laid on this matter. So long as the bulk of our masses remained ignorant and uneducated, with crude old-world notions, they cannot but be a clog to progress of every kind and victims to the many ills that spring from the want of enlightenment. They cannot imbibe the essence of culture that many filter down from the pick of their fellow countrymen, who have been capable and fortunate enough to tower above them. When a people are pulling behind, it is of no consequence if a few tug the other way. The grossness of the former, aggravated by the sad want of light, will have weight to drag even the favoured few down. This is not the occasion to go at length into the high value of the Vernacular education of the masses. But we hope something will come out of the Conferences and Commissions which are the order of the day in the administration of the country, and that the overpowering claims of this branch of education will derive the support and encouragement which they very lamentably need. On the subject of female education the Chairman held up the model of the Mysore Maharani's Girls' College. Even if that should be taken as the model, in point of the courses of instruction therein imparted, we do not know how few schools for girls it would be practicable to work on the same or similar imposing lines. On the subject of political reform, the Chairman would have us wait prudently till the Government see their way to confer on us distinctions and offices higher than those we now enjoy. In the meantime, he wants us to educate ourselves politically, and learn to show greater competence for the Local Self-Government Scheme of Lord Ripon. We do not quite see what he means when he says, we should

wait prudently for political reform. If he expects that Government will confer on us distinctions and offices in profusion, and then only we should agitate for political reform, it is directed only towards securing enlarged facilities for the popular participation in the work of Government, and this we have no means of obtaining unless we agitate for political reform. We admit there is need to educate ourselves politically and acquire even greater competence in this wise than that we may now lay claim to, but should we on this account remain silent without asking for the recognition of the claims so far as they go. He must be much mistaken who thinks that we have not political education and competence enough to demand the reform of the present political backwardness in which we are left by a benign Government."

Miss Manning, on 7th February 1904, wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty :—

"I thank you . . . also for the report of your very interesting address delivered at the Christian College, Madras; I think that your remarks have much truth, and they must have been well appreciated. There are great difficulties in regard to the education of Hindu girls, some of which you mention. It is a good sign, however, that the leaders of the community recognize now that women must be allowed education, in that the point discussed is mainly the discovery of the best methods. As to social intercourse, I am glad you have suggested the importance of lessening the estrangement between those of different castes as the first matter to be attempted. With regard to teaching of religion in a form which might be widely accepted, it appears to me that our great hindrance is that the teachers do not always live up to, or even aim at, the ideal that they are to present to their

pupils, as in such cases, the teaching would fail to be profitable. It may be hoped, however, that a higher class of teachers will in time be universal."

57. *Introduction of Bible into Schools.*—Mr. Thumboo Chetty in handling the question, whether the Bible should be introduced in all Government Schools, recorded his opinion as follows :—

"It cannot, of course, be disputed that every Government should strictly conform itself to principles of neutrality; but it must at the same time be conceded that it is desirable, nay necessary, that every student should know the historical facts and tenets and laws and usages of every nation that existed or, sometime or other, figured on the face of the earth. Apart from the religious aspect of the question, I fail to perceive what objection there could be to the introduction of the Bible, as a Book of the Jewish History; giving, as it does, an account of the rise, progress and gradual downfall of a great nation, called the Israelites, who regarded themselves as the chosen people of God; of their laws and customs; of their philosophy and wisdom; of the sayings and teachings of their Prophets, Sages and Saints, of the Old and New Testaments, including the admittedly pure and exemplary life of Jesus Christ and of his followers, who effected a wonderful change throughout the world; whose character, piety and virtue were infinitely good, and worthy of all love and imitation. History is philosophy taught by example. Bible-History is nothing more nor less. Why then should it be excluded from schools? Mere sentiment must give way to reason. If there can be no objection to the Greek and Hindu systems of Philosophy and their ancient history, enveloped in fables and mythology, being taught in schools, why exclude the

Christian History and code of morality and philosophy? Why not give them the consideration they deserve and adopt them as class books? No virtue is more essential to the well-being of society than a general regard to truth. The study of any book which tends to promote such regard for truth ought to be encouraged. The introduction of the Bible-History will, I am sure, pave the way for imparting a far more valuable species of wholesome knowledge and salutary precepts than that which has heretofore been attempted in non-Christian institutions, either for the development of the mind or edification of the youth or for regulating the main stream of human life and progress."

CHAPTER XII.

Miscellaneous.—A writer of biography is sometimes tempted to descend to minute circumstances and minor incidents, which furnish rare and touching examples of one's life, and from which we often receive most light into the real character, public and private, of the person whose actions are recorded; so that the readers may form their own opinions from the data of particulars, however small, placed before them, though not in a strictly chronological order. It is this desire that has prompted the contribution of what follows relating to various, but not unimportant, matters of an auxiliary nature, so as to render the biography somewhat complete, and not altogether devoid of fulness and sufficiency.

(I) *The Honourable J. R. Kindersley*, who was about to retire from the Bench of the Madras High Court, wrote as follows to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, on 14th January 1884:—

“My Dear Thumboo Chetty,—I was very glad to see your handwriting again, and to learn that you still continue to enjoy the high position which you have gained, not by any favour or inducement, but by your own industry and application. I shall always be glad to hear of your advancement to the higher posts under Government; but, if this is not to happen, never mind. Do not come down to Madras only on my account. It will only trouble you for nothing. We leave Madras by the 6th proximo. I remain, My dear Thumboo Chetty, yours very sincerely, J. R. Kindersley.”

Mr. Thumboo Chetty proceeded to Madras, paid his loving respects to his old friend and benefactor, and returned bidding him an affectionate farewell with that sorrow which cannot be restrained at a parting of the kind—Mr. Kindersley's memory will ever be very dear to Mr. Thumboo Chetty and his family.

(II) *Lord Ripon's visit to Madras and his departure from India.—Mysore Address.*—Mr. Thumboo Chetty received the following invitation to accompany His Highness the Maharajah to meet His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, Lord Ripon, in Madras:—

“My dear Sir,—His Highness would like you to accompany us to Madras to-morrow. I have accordingly pro-

vided a seat for you in the special train which leaves Bangalore Cantonment station at 9 A.M. Can you go without inconvenience? If so, arrange accordingly. Yours very sincerely, K. Sheshadri Iyer, 8th February 1884."

Subsequently, Lord Ripon was glad to hear privately from Mr. Thumboo Chetty about the state of Catholic Education and other matters of interest in Mysore, which elicited the following reply, through His Lordship's Domestic Chaplain, Father Kerr :—

"Government House, Calcutta, December 6th.—My Dear Sir, I have left your good letter too long unanswered, not from want of consideration, but owing to our autumn tour, which does not leave much time for writing. I have duly communicated your kindly sentiments to His Excellency, which he appreciated in the spirit in which they were sent. I too thank you for your good wishes, and pray that they may be fulfilled, both in this world and the next. You are evidently making a start with Catholic Education, and I am glad to hear it. May God bless the efforts of your good Bishop and Clergy. Wishing you farewell, Believe me, yours sincerely, H. G. Kerr."

At the time of Lord Ripon's departure from India, there was universal manifestation of the high appreciation of His Excellency's administration, and of the great advantages which accrued to Indians during his popular rule. In Bangalore, there was a special meeting to present an address to His Lordship. Mr. Thumboo Chetty took a special interest in that movement, and, at his instance, the following paragraph was added to the address :—

"It was in Your Viceroyalty that the Rendition of the State of Mysore was effected, and Your Excellency's name will ever be associated with that historical event. We desire particularly to assure Your Lordship that the spirit of your administration has extended beyond the borders of British Territory, into the possessions of Native Princes and Chieftains, your enlightened policy forming a model for Native Statesmen, and your conduct an example for Native Rulers. In behalf of the people of Mysore, we beg to express our heartfelt satisfaction with the policy inaugurated during Your Viceroyalty, regarding the Government of Native States, the forming of constitutional Governments, and of encouraging the growth of institutions calculated to insure the stability of Native Rule."

(III) *Deputation to Madras to meet H. R. H. The Prince of Wales :—*

In 1875 there was a deputation from Mysore to Madras to meet His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales (present King-Emperor Edward the Seventh), and Mr. Thumboo Chetty, then Sub-Judge of Bangalore, was a member of that deputation. Referring to this, Mr. John Dawson Mayne, in his letter to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, dated 26th January 1876, wrote :—

"I am glad you saw the Prince of Wales. He is a fine, manly generous Prince. I think his visit to India will do him much good, and have a favourable effect on the Native Princes."

Mr. Thumboo Chetty had the honour of meeting in 1891 H. R. H. Prince Victor and also H. R. H. the Prince of Wales in January 1906, when Mr. J. D. Mayne wrote :—

"Goodrest, Reading, January 31st, 1906. My Dear Thumboo Chettiar, I see you have got the Prince and Princess of Wales at Mysore at the present moment. I suppose they will return to Madras by Bangalore. They are both most able and tactful and make a first rate impression wherever they go. Now, my dear friend, good-bye. I trust you may be long spared for the happiness of your family and the good of your adopted country. Yours as ever most sincerely, John D. Mayne."

(IV) *H. H. the Maharaja made G.C.S.I.—Birth of Yuvaraj, First Prince.*—Intimation of the honour conferred upon the Maharaja was received in the following note :—

"26th May 1884, My Dear Thumboo Chettyar—Yes, it is true that His Highness the Maharaja has been appointed G.C.S.I. Yours very sincerely, K. Sheshadri Iyer."

Within a month after the receipt of the above joyful tidings, *i.e.*, on 4th June 1884, His Highness the First Prince (now Maharajah) Krishna Rajendra Wadiar Bahadur, was born. On both these occasions there was unbounded and universal joy throughout Mysore, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty offered his heartfelt and respectful congratulations, to which H. H. the Maharaja was graciously pleased to reply, that he was happy to receive them, "as coming, most sincerely and loyally, from an old and devoted servant of the State." In connection with the investiture, Mr. Thumboo Chetty received the following letter

from Sir Sheshadri Iyer, dated Fern Hill, Ootacamund, April 16th, 1885 :—

“ We are all enjoying Ootacamund very well this year. It is much drier than usual, and there are no unpleasant chills to fear. It is very probable that His Highness' stay here will be a very short one this year. Mr. Lyall will be here on 23rd, and I return to Bangalore after a fortnight's stay. As His Highness likes to receive the Insignia of G.C.S.I. from his hands, and as Mr. Lyall is going on furlough about the end of May, His Highness will probably return to Mysore about the 10th May, after which arrangements will be made for a little ceremony for the investiture, which may perhaps better take place at Mysore, the historical capital, than at Bangalore, the official capital of 50 years' standing. This seems to be His Highness' present idea, and, if it is finally decided, that the ceremonial is to take place at Mysore, we must arrange for the principal officers of the State coming there for the occasion
* * * * If you think of coming to Ooty, I can promise you a very good week here. If you like to visit Ooty, this is the best time for it. A tonga from Mettupalaiyam will bring you in six hours. I have a small separate house, and you are quite welcome to occupy a part of it. Probably Dr. Dhanakoti Raju will be here for a short time, also Ramachendra Iyer, and a few other friends.”

(V) *Arrest and imprisonment for Revenue Demand.*—The following is an extract from a letter from Mr. P. Kristna Rao (one of the non-official members of council) to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, dated Mysore, 20th November 1885 :—

“ I am glad you have again protested against the arrest and imprisonment of revenue defaulters.”

Mr. Thumboo Chetty was always of opinion that the arrest and imprisonment of revenue defaulters was not actually called for. But the provisions of the Bombay Code, in this respect, have been incorporated in the Mysore Revenue Code. Land is the best security for the public revenue; besides there is always the crop raised on the land and the ryots' moveables, etc., which may be proceeded against, if default be made in the payment of kundayam. A person, arrested for a *civil* debt, may always ask for release, on the ground he is insolvent and unable to meet the debts of his creditors. This merciful consideration, Mr. Thumboo Chetty thought, should not be denied to an agriculturist or cultivator of land which is the mainstay of public revenue.

(VI) *Crown Debts*.—There was a good deal of discussion on this subject, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty was asked to give his opinion in the following letter:—

“Bangalore, 2nd February 1885.—My Dear Sir, With reference to our council discussions, in regard to the priority of crown debts and to our decision, that we should limit expressly such priority of Land Revenue arrears to the claims against the lands on which they may be due, you will oblige me greatly if you will study the case. The Secretary of State for India *v.* The Bombay Landing and Shipping Co., reported at page 23 of the 5th volume of the Bombay High Court Reports (1868), and with reference to the facts and opinions stated in that case, you will kindly give me your opinion as to what we should do. A short

memo. from you will be very useful * * * Yours very sincerely, K. Sheshadri Iyer."

Mr. Thumboo Chetty gave his opinion on this rather difficult question, which has been satisfactorily settled by the provisions relating to the priority of Government claims, embodied in section 143 of the Mysore Land Revenue Code, passed subsequent to the above correspondence.

(VII) *Lady Doctors*.—Prior to 1885, we had no skilled and thoroughly qualified Lady Doctors in Mysore. Mr. Thumboo Chetty mooted the subject and Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer replied :—

"Your proposal commands my entire concurrence, and, if a suitable candidate is available, the Mysore State may, I think, give the needful aid."

It was subsequent to this that Miss Gurdial Singh was first appointed; afterwards were appointed Miss Govindrajulu and Miss Iyachiammah, all doing excellent work in behalf of their countrywomen, in affording relief to those suffering from grievous maladies and distempers.

(VIII) *Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao, K.C.S.I.*, the first distinguished Native Statesman, who belonged to Southern India, paid a visit to Bangalore in April 1885. Owing to the Dewan's absence, Mr. Thumboo Chetty showed the visitor the Palace and Public Offices and other places of interest with all of which he was immensely pleased; and on hearing this, Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer, in his

letter dated Ootacamund, April 16, 1885, wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, thanking him for what was done. Mr. Thumboo Chetty's opinion of this great man is thus noted in his scrap book :—

“ Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao's valuable services first as Tutor to the Maharajah of Travancore and, afterwards, as Dewan of that State and subsequently as Dewan of Indore, and again as Dewan Regent of Baroda, after the deposition of Maharajah Gaekwar, Malhar Rao, are well known to the public. He held situations of eminence and fortune, and was held in very high estimation. His name will go down with honour to the latest ages of time. He was marvellously brilliant ; was remarkable for his elevated sentiments, public spirit, and love of every thing that was truly progressive and beneficial to his country and countrymen : and he always urged that which tended to improve them in the philosophy of human nature. His cultivation of the powers of taste was a proof that the most busy man, in the most active sphere, could fill up unemployed intervals with those pleasures of taste that refresh the mind after the toils of the intellect. As remarked by Lord Napier, when decorating him with the Knighthood, the spectacle of a good Indian Minister, serving a good Indian Sovereign, must have a lasting influence on the policy of England and on the future of Native Governments.”

(IX) One's life is a mixture of happiness and misery. In the Providential dealings of God, no one is exempt from trials and afflictions, which are intended to prove the vanity of the world and all earthly things, and to stimulate one to practise virtue and to bow to the unalterable decrees of

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that Great Disposer of Events, who ordains everything in His infinite wisdom.

(a) *Mr. Saravyah Chetty*, the first son-in-law of Mr. Thumboo Chetty, passed away in 1885, in the prime of life, leaving his wife, Amarapathy Ammah, burdened with the care of a son and a daughter and in a state of perpetual widowhood. This saddened Mr. Thumboo Chetty's heart. Among the numerous letters of sympathy received, the following was one :—

“ Mysore, October 11, 1885.—My Dear Sir, It has been my sad duty to lay before His Highness the Maharajah the melancholy intelligence contained in your telegram of yesterday. His Highness commands me to convey to you an expression of his deep sympathy with you in your sad bereavement. For myself, I beg to offer you my sincerest condolences on an event which has cast so dark a gloom on your family. The blow indeed is too heavy and too recent for me to say anything likely to console you, but I sincerely hope that strength to bear so great a calamity is vouchsafed to you. With deepest sympathy, I remain, yours very sincerely, K. Sheshadri Iyer. *P.S.*—I need scarcely add that His Highness will not expect you during the Dassara.—K. S.”

(b) *Prince Subramanyaraj Urs' death.*—In July 1890, His Highness the Maharajah felt keenly the demise of his brother, Prince Subramanyaraj Urs, and, in reply to Mr. Thumboo Chetty's letter of condolence, His Highness was graciously pleased to say what follows with an expression of virtuous resignation :—

"31st July 1890.—My dear Mr. Thumboo Chettyar, I thank you for your letter of condolence. The death of my brother is a severe calamity to me. But I am trying to bear up, as calmly as possible, and to submit with resignation to the will of the Almighty. I am coming to Bangalore by Saturday morning, arrival will be private, Yours sincerely, Chamrajendra Wadier."

(c) *Demise of Her Highness the Second Dowager Maharani Devajammanni Avaru, C. I., of Sitavilas.*—In March 1895, Mr. Thumboo Chetty attended the funeral ceremonies connected with the demise, at the advanced age of 89, of H. H. the Second Dowager Maharani. In connection with this event Mr. Thumboo Chetty has written :—

"What struck every one on the occasion was the high intellect, combined with sincere affection for the people of Mysore, displayed in the dying injunction, which Her Highness is said to have given to her beloved son and daughter-in-law, in these terms :— 'Remember that you have to take care of, with the most affectionate and parental concern, not only your *five* children, but also the *five millions of your subjects*, whom you should regard as your own children.' An excellent *precept* indeed."

(d) *Sir Sheshadri Iyer lost his mother* in February 1886, when he wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty :—

"27-2-86.—My dear Sir, Many thanks for your kind enquiries. When you called here, I was in such a state of mind that I could not trust myself to any friend's presence. I feel better now. If we do not tend to become more and more callous every day, I do not know what we will all come to * * Yours sincerely, K. Sheshadri Iyer."

(e) *Thayamma's Death*.—In June 1902, Mr. Thumboo Chetty sustained a heavy domestic calamity, owing to the demise of his younger brother Mr. Thanasawmy Chetty's beloved wife. He remarked pithily :—

“ God's ways are really inscrutable. The uniform good conduct and exemplary life of the deceased Thayamma will for ever be remembered by all her relatives, though the loss sustained by the broken-hearted husband and her only childless daughter will continue to be irreparable.”

(X) *Amendment of Gold Mining Rules*.—The amendment of the Gold Mining Rules, and the revision of the 30 years' lease and of the conditions of assignment of a lease, engaged the serious attention of the Dewan, who wrote on 17-2-86 to Mr. Thumboo Chetty :—

“ I send the Gold Mining Rules and lease form for your opinion. I have somewhat amplified your draft, from a desire to guard against future troubles. Can you improve what I have written? It is rather complicated I fear, and perhaps improvement is possible. I am not fit to do more at present.”

After further discussion, the terms were settled, subject to a reference to the Supreme Government.

(XI) *Durbar Uniform*.—In August 1886 H. H. the Maharajah passed a Regulation, prescribing the uniform to be worn by certain officers, when attending the Palace Durbars. As Mr. Thumboo Chetty was both a Judge and Councillor, the doubt, as to what particular uniform was to be worn by him,

was decided by His Highness, as intimated in the following note :—

“ Mysore, September 6th, 1886.—My dear Thumboo Chettyar, It is optional with you to wear either the uniform of Class I or your robes as Judge. It won't do, however, to put on the robe, the cuffs and collar prescribed for the uniform, for to do so would be to make a new kind of uniform. This is what was decided by His Highness after a long discussion. He seemed indifferent, as to whether you come in the Judge's robes or in uniform, Class I. I think it will be better to get the uniform, as it will be convenient for squatting purposes. With kind regards, yours sincerely, K. Sheshadri Iyer.”

Mr. Thumboo Chetty preferred to wear the uniform at all Palace Durbars, reserving the robes for the Bench.

(XII) *Mr. Thumboo Chetty was occasionally consulted by the Residency*, as he was regarded as a repository of useful information. As Judge-Councillor, he always made it a point to note down information up to date in his scrap book and other papers required for reference, and, whenever he was consulted, he had no difficulty in readily clearing up doubts and replying to enquiries. In February 1885, there was a question, as to the Government right to minerals, under the terms of the Land Revenue Settlement, and as to the difficulty of acquiring land under the Land Acquisition Act for the Government and the assignee working mines in it; also, as regards the adjustment of claims to damages before mining operations

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are commenced. Mr. Thumboo Chetty offered his views, in compliance with the request contained in the Acting Resident Colonel T. G. Clarke's letters to him of July 1883. On the 2nd July 1887, Major (afterwards Sir) Donald Robertson, then Assistant Resident, wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty as follows :—

"My Dear Mr. Thumboo Chetty, Mr. Fitzpatrick has desired me to see you and obtain your opinion regarding the appointment of Honorary Magistrates in the C. and M. Station. I am going to call at office, about 12 o'clock on Monday. Would you be disengaged about 12-30 P.M. that day? Yours truly, Donald Robertson."

In offering his suggestions, Mr. Thumboo Chetty particularly urged that Honorary Magistrates should be men of ripe age and varied experience, possessing some knowledge of law, and should belong to different sections of the community, so as to command the respect and confidence of the people, and to keep their minds free from prepossessions and prejudices. He also thought that Municipal Commissioners should be debarred from sitting as Magistrates in Municipal prosecutions, and further that special cases, such as riots or disturbances connected with Hindu and Mahomedan festivals, processions, etc., should invariably be tried by the District Magistrate. The following letters were from Mr. Girdlestone and Colonel T. G. Clarke, while they were British Residents :—

" August, 22nd—My Dear Thumboo Chetty, I return with many thanks your Blue Book, after marking my own copy according to the indications given. Your help in the matter has been very useful to me. With regards, sincerely yours, C. Girdlestone."

" *Residency, 25.*—My Dear Mr. Thumboo Chetty, As I have not heard further from you, I suppose you have not been able to get any more recent definition of Works of Public Utility. Act 22-63 has, as you say, been repealed and that definition is clearly obsolete, for coal mines were hardly in contemplation then. I feel confident myself that the operation of the Land Improvement Act would be quite suitable and proper in the present class of cases, for it would be necessary for Government, before taking up the land, to show that the object of doing so was purely for a *public* purpose, or for a Company formed for working a mine. The application of this Act would, therefore, be an additional protection to the planter. Believe me, yours very sincerely, Tredway Clarke."

Mr. Thumboo Chetty, at the request of Sir William Lee-Warner, collected and furnished some important information, which was acknowledged as follows :—

" Dear Mr. Thumboo Chetty, Very many thanks for your help. I am ashamed of adding to your work. I return the books with best thanks. Yours sincerely, Lee-Warner."

(XIII) *Miss Manning visited* Bangalore in August 1888, when there was a large gathering of European and Hindu Ladies of Bangalore, together with some of the principal Native gentlemen, to meet her at a musical entertainment given in

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Rugby Hall by Mrs. Thumboo Chetty, who presented the following address to Miss Manning :—

“ It affords me a great deal of pleasure to welcome you this evening in the presence of so many happy faces around me, who all heartily join in greeting a noble lady like yourself. Your philanthropic exertions to promote the education and to improve and develop the moral and social condition of my country-women, the very great assistance you have been, and are still, rendering by devoting both your time and money towards the advancement of the same cause, and the many virtues and good qualities that adorn you, have endeared you to us all, and have won for you our highest esteem and respect. I can only say that I am but feebly expressing the immense pleasure and joy with which we receive you on this auspicious occasion, and although we cannot give the same magnificent reception accorded to you both at Bombay and Madras, we can offer you equally warm hearts and cordially wish you God-speed in your good and most useful work. The Zenana teaching, introduced into Bangalore under your special patronage, is progressing, though slowly, but steadily. There was great difficulty in inaugurating and working this system owing to various causes, the chief of which was the want of competent teachers of good caste, who could easily gain access to Zenanas of respectable families and make themselves familiar with the Home students. We hope, ere long, to surmount this difficulty, as Her Highness the Maharanee's Girls' School at Mysore, and some of the Girls' schools in Bangalore, will soon be able to supply our want. The system of Zenana teaching is still in its infancy, but, with continued exertion and co-operation on the part of those interested in the movement, the system will gradually expand and develop itself to the permanent advantage and interest of this country. The

earnestness and devotion which characterize your labours on behalf of the women in India, entitle you to our gratitude and strong and lasting love. Your conduct is worthy of emulation, and I doubt not that you will regard this gathering of intelligent and principal Native ladies of Bangalore to welcome you as a proof of the high estimation in which you are held by them, and of their willingness to support that cause which you have deeply at heart. We shall always speak and think of you as the best and dearest friend of India. You will carry our good wishes to your distant native land, where, we fervently pray, you may long continue to enjoy every happiness and the well-merited respect of my country-women."

Miss Manning explained to the ladies present the necessity for promoting female education and social reforms. There was a free and friendly exchange of ideas on these two important matters, and the conversation was, on the whole, very pleasant and edifying. On receiving information of this unique gathering, which was the first of the kind in Bangalore, His Highness Kerala Varmah, the First Prince of Cochin, wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty :—

"Your last advice to my tutor, N. Narayana Menon, and Secretary of the Cochin Reform Association, when we came to you to take leave of you on the day we left Bangalore on hearing our late Maharajah's dangerous state of illness, you have subsequently put in practice, for which we humbly and gratefully congratulate you. What a boon it would be if our women in a friendly way meet each other often and understand each other. We heartily wish the example you have set will be copied and repeated under your fostering care."

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(XIV). *Miss Garland*.—Another philanthropic lady, who, like Miss Manning, interested herself in the amelioration of the condition of her Indian sisters was Miss Garland, regarding whom Mr. Thumboo Chetty received the following letter:—

“Mysore, 15th March 1900.—My Dear Sir, A lady from England, Miss Garland by name, is now touring through India, and wishes to see native life, and would like, if possible, to visit native houses and speak, of course, through an Interpreter to Native ladies and children. I have arranged for her visiting the houses of some Hindu gentlemen in the Petta this evening. Colonel Benson, with whom she is staying, suggested that she would be interested to see Mrs. Thumboo Chetty and your children. If you have no objection, I will advise Miss Garland to call on you. She may be accompanied by Mrs. Benson. Will 5 or 5-30 p.m. be convenient to you? Yours sincerely, V. P. MADHAVA RAO.”

Mr. and Mrs. Thumboo Chetty and the whole family were delighted to meet Miss Garland, and they much appreciated the deep anxiety she evinced in the advancement of female education in India.

(XV). *The Rajammah Thumboo Chetty Girls' School, Civil and Military Station, Bangalore*.—It may be observed that Mrs. Thumboo Chetty, who admired the nobler exhibitions of mind and cultivated intellects of both Miss Manning and Miss Garland, was herself induced to do something in connection with female education. The Rajammah Thumboo Chetty Girls' School was opened

in the year 1898 in a building in Narrain Pillay Street, which was made over by Mrs. Thumboo Chetty to the Roman Catholic Mission. It is under the management of a European Head Mistress, Sister Marie Cesarie of St. Joseph's Convent (who has passed her examination in Europe), assisted by six native nuns. The strength of the school at present is 160 pupils, who belong to different castes, most of whom are Mudaliars and Mahrattas. There are also some Brahmins, Lingayets and Native Christians. The school, which is in a crowded locality in the station, attracts all castes. There are classes from the Infants up to Form I. In each class all the subjects according to the Madras Education Code are taught, besides needle and fancy work, Kindergarten and singing.

(XVI). *Birth of Yuvaraj*.—On 5th June 1888, Mr. Thumboo Chetty received the following letter from the Dewan :—

“My Dear Mr. Thumboo Chettiyar, I have great pleasure in announcing to you the birth of a Prince to H. H. the Maharajah to-day at 8 a.m. In honour of this auspicious event, the Government have decided to release some short-term prisoners from our jails Yours very sincerely, K. SHESHADRI IYER.”

The Prince referred to is the Yuvaraj, who was sent to the Ajmere Rajkumar College to join the Imperial Cadet Corps. Release of prisoners on such joyous occasions has been the custom.

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(XVII). *Mysore Exhibition*.—In October 1888, during the Dassara season, an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition was held in Mysore, which was a great success. Mr. Thumboo Chetty took a keen interest in the Exhibition, and some grass mats of different colours and other curiosities received from H. H. the First Prince of Cochin were exhibited, with the result indicated in the following letter sent to Mr. Thumboo Chetty :—

“Ernakulam, February 16th, 1889.—My Dear Sir, I should have replied to your very kind letter earlier. Kindly excuse the delay. I have to thank you sincerely for the trouble you took in getting the few things I sent to you exhibited, and am exceedingly happy to find that some of the articles attracted the favourable attention of the public there, and won honours at the hands of critical judges. Myself and, indirectly, my country are indebted to you for this. I am, yours very sincerely, KERALA VURMA, First Prince of Cochin.”

(XVIII). *Kummerbund or Waist Band*.—The tying of kummerbund is compulsory at Palace Durbars and ceremonials in the presence of the Maharajah, unless one is specially exempted. This exemption was accorded to Mr. Thumboo Chetty by the following letter :—

“Mysore, 8th June 1889.—My Dear Mr. Thumboo Chettayar, His Highness the Maharajah has been pleased to exempt you from *Kummerbund* in all Durbars as a personal distinction. I remain, yours very sincerely, K. SHESHADRI IYER.”

(XIX). *Titles and Honours*.—In 1889, one of the Members of Council (the Honourable Mr. P. Chentsal Rao) consulted Mr. Thumboo Chetty on the subject of conferring titles and honours on the subjects of the Mysore Province as a stimulus for the faithful performance of private and public duties, and as an encouragement to private charity, learning, etc. Mr. Thumboo Chetty's opinion, dated 11th November 1889, was as follows :—

“Your idea is an excellent one. The granting of titles and conferring honours proposed by you will doubtless be productive of considerable public benefit. It would encourage the exertion and secure the services of men of integrity and talent in this Native administration. While the principle involved in your recommendation commends itself to me, I think the matter requires further very careful consideration. I am, at present, not prepared to go into details. These may be discussed and settled in committee if the proposal meets with the approval of His Highness and the Government of India have no objection to the creation of separate orders of distinction in Native States.”

(XX). *The Pope's Medal*.—In 1892, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was admitted to the order of ‘*Proecclesia et Pontifice*,’ and received the Jubilee Medal of His Holiness the Pope Leo XIII. The Dewan, in offering his most hearty congratulations, wrote :—

“You must, of course, wear the new decoration during the Dassara.”

(XXI). *Title of Raja Dharma Pravina*.—His Highness' proclamation, conferring this title on

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Mr. Thumboo Chetty, was thus published in the *Mysore Gazette Extraordinary* :—

“On the 7th day of Asviya Sudha of the year Vijya, on Tuesday, corresponding to the 17th October 1893, during the Dassara Durbar, in honour of the date of ascension, His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore was pleased to confer, with suitable presents, the following titles and honours on the following gentlemen :—1. 2. Trichinopoly Royaloo Arogheaswami Thumboo Chettiar, Raja Dharma Pravina.”

(XXII). *Companion of the Indian Empire*.—In May 1895, Mr. Thumboo Chetty's name was included in the list of the Queen's Birthday Honours. The announcement that Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress was graciously pleased to create him a Companion of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire was made to him personally by the then British Resident, Mr. (afterwards Sir Wm.) Lee-Warner, through whom he tendered his most grateful acknowledgments for the honour conferred. Numerous were the congratulations he received from his many European and Indian friends, and foremost among them was a communication which Her Highness the Maharani Regent, C. I., was very pleased to send, through Her Private Secretary. It ran as follows :—

“Her Highness, while congratulating upon your well-deserved honour, feels proud that one of her own Councilors should be the recipient of such honours at the hands of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress. The

fact merely indicates that your merits are recognized not only within the Province, but abroad, reaching the very ears of Her who is the fountain head of all Titles and Honours. Her Highness has already felt assured that the confidence she has reposed in you has been rightly placed, and that you will justify it."

The Bangalore Native Christian Association addressed him as under :—

"To Raja Dharma Pravina F. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, Esquire, C.I.E., Senior Member of the Council of Regency,—Respected Sir, At a meeting of the Bangalore Native Christian Association, held on the 1st June, it was unanimously resolved that the congratulations of the Association be sent to you for the high and richly deserved honour which has newly been conferred on you by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress in creating you a Companion to the Indian Empire. The Association notes with pride the fact that you are the first Native Christian in Southern India who has been invested with the insignia of this eminent order. It, therefore, begs to express its gratitude to you for the honour which you have thus brought to the entire community of which you are the brightest ornament. It is the earnest desire and prayer of the Association that you may live happily for many more years to come, and bring even greater honours to yourself and to our community. I have the honour to be, Respected Sir, your most obedient servant, S. SANTAPPA, B.A., Honorary Secretary, B.N.C.A., Bangalore, 15th June 1895."

The son of the late Dewan, Mr. Runga Charlu, C.I.E., who appears to have been a shrewd and disinterested observer of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's

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career in Mysore. and, therefore, competent to speak unreservedly and candidly, wrote as follows :—

“Athur near Chingleput, 4-6-95.—My Dear Sir, It takes a long time for news to travel to this far-off place. I write just a line of congratulation, which is none the less sincere because it is late, on the recognition of your very valuable services by Her Majesty the Empress on Her Birthday. That title should have been yours, in all fairness, many years ago, but the tendency has been everywhere to ignore all but the Chief Minister in Native States. The Government of India have done credit to themselves by now confessing that all the work in a Native State is not done by one man. To you the best reward always must have been, and will be, the approbation of your own heart for the good you do. The title, therefore, does greater honour to the bestowers than to yourself. But the public go by appearances, and I am, therefore, happy to see the addition to your designation. I am not accustomed to flatter, and I therefore speak from conviction when I say that a high, honourable and safe officer can never be manufactured entirely in a Native State. It wants all the personal contact with all those noble-minded, able European officers with whom you were so long associated to give a man the punctuality, the industry, the unchanging sense of justice, the judicial acumen, and, above all, the high honesty and sense of duty which have made you so well respected by all right-thinking men. Other officers may be loved or respected by one party or faction, or one set of favourites; but, in your case, they all respect you equally. The success of the administration does not depend upon a number of clever men who can write very eloquent essays and deliver grand speeches nor upon those who can make a grand show during a visit of the Viceroy or Resident but upon those few unshaken

good old officers, who are always the same, and love duty as duty. His Highness the late Maharajah's most untimely death has left, in the hands of the Dewan and such high officers like yourself, a most sacred trust. All our eyes should now be upon the beloved young Maharajah. I entreat you to conserve your strength and vigour so as to maintain the high reputation of Mysore until he comes of age. It is a most anxious time, and your place, as a joint guardian of His Highness, and a most trusted adviser of Her Highness cannot be possibly filled by any one else. Good simple men often do not know their own value. It is my earnest desire that you should never consider yourself unimportant. If the history of Mysore in recent years be ever written, your work would fill many pages. Already, the loss to the Chief Court is irreparable. They cannot fill your place any more than Muthusawmy Iyer's in Madras. Men will always come for places, but worthy men are rare Once more assuring you of my sincere respect and admiration, yours very sincerely, C. RAGAVA CHARLU."

(XXIII). *The Photo of the Maharajah and Principal Officers.*—Mr. Thumboo Chetty received this photo with the following letter:—

"6th September 1890. The Palace, Bangalore.—My Dear Sir, H. H. The Maharajah has bid me to send you the accompanying photograph. I remain, yours very sincerely, A. NARASIMA IYENGAR."

The photo is a group of the Dewan, Councillors (including Mr. Thumboo Chetty) and other principal officers, with His Highness the Maharajah in the centre, taken in the Palace building at Mysore. Although His Highness has gone into the realms

of light, the abode of the blessed, his memory will for ever be dear to Mr. Thumboo Chetty and his posterity, by whom this precious souvenir will be carefully and pleasantly preserved.

(XXIV). *His Highness the Maharajah's contemplated trip to England* was reported in some of the newspapers. Hearing this, Colonel Clarke wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty on 12th June 1891 :—

“My Dear Thumboo Chetty, I see from the *Madras Mail*, there is every probability of His Highness the Maharajah coming to England this year and of your accompanying him. I hope this is true, and I may have the pleasure of seeing you ere long. Let me know, if I can be of any assistance.”

(XXV). *Memorial for the Restitution of Mysore.*—The following letter from Mr. J. D. Mayne relates, among other interesting matters, to the Restitution of Mysore, and to the assistance rendered by him in this respect, which will be an agreeable surprise to many :—

“Goodrest, Reading, Berkshire, May 1st, 1893.—My Dear Thumboo Chetty, I was very much pleased to receive your letter. I have often heard and read of your steady upward progress in the Mysore service, and few things, in the success of others, have given me greater pleasure. I should be very glad to think that I had helped you, in the earlier stages of your career, but the result is solely due to your own industry, ability and integrity. There was a report, sometime ago, that the Maharajah

was going to visit England, and that you were to accompany him. If ever this should happen, I hope you will be able to spare time to pay us a visit here. Both Mrs. Mayne and myself would gladly welcome you to our home. *I don't know whether you are aware that the last statement of the case for the Restitution of the Mysore State, which was, very shortly afterwards, followed by the order for its restitution, was written by me, about the middle of 1864, I think I was asked to go down to Mysore to prepare a statement which took the form of a memorial from the then Rajah, and spent about a week at Dr. Campbell's house drawing it up. In March 1865, I went home in the same ship with Sir H. S. Maine, and was much amused at his discussing the memorial with me in complete ignorance, of course, that I knew anything about it. Since I left India, I have been spending a very quiet and happy life in the country. I have bought a very pretty place, about 35 miles from London. For about ten years I had also a house in London; but I gave it up sometime ago. I worked very hard, for about two years, at my book on Hindu Law, which has had a success far beyond what I expected. It has not only had an immense sale, but has, I think, done much to settle the law by putting it on a scientific and intelligible basis. With successive editions of this book, and of my Penal Code, and of an English book on 'Damages,' which I wrote before going to India, and with my practice in the Privy Council, I have enough to give me pleasant occupation. But my real happiness is to sit in my library, surrounded by books in many languages and of every age, and to live again among the spirits of the Mighty Dead. Your late Chief Judge, Mr. Plumer, dined with us in London on his last visit before retiring, but I have not seen him since he left India finally. With every good wish for your happi-*

ness, believe me to be, your very sincere friend, JOHN D. MAYNE."

The passage in the foregoing letter, in italics, is very significant. It discloses a remarkable coincidence of circumstances! Just at the time this eminent jurist (Mr. John Dawson Mayne) was helping the deposed Maharajah, who was in despair as regards regaining his sovereignty, Thumboo Chetty, like Paul at the feet of Gamaliel, was assiduously studying law under the same gentleman that drew up the valuable memorial that was successful in securing the Restitution and was destined to assist, ere long, the First Ruler of this ancient Native Dynasty subsequent to Rendition, as Chief Judge, Councillor and Prime Minister. As Shakespeare well puts it—

"There is a Divinity that shapes one's ends,
Rough hew them, how we will."

The late Maharajah's contemplated trip to England was abandoned, owing to various difficulties in the way of a Hindu Sovereign undertaking a long travel across the seas, but he acquired some experience of a sea voyage in a short trip to Calcutta, as the next para. will show.

(XXVI). *The Maharajah's First Sea Voyage to Calcutta.*—In December 1892, His Highness the Maharajah made the first sea voyage from Madras to Calcutta, when Mr. Thumboo Chetty received the following from His Highness, giving a brief account of the voyage.

Telegram, dated Calcutta, 22nd December 1892.
From Maharajah to T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar,
Esq., Officiating Dewan :—

“ Thanks, arrived yesterday afternoon after pleasant voyage.”

Letter, Shealda House, 28th December 1892, Calcutta.
“ My Dear Thumboo Chetty, Thank you for your letter, from which I was glad to learn that all are doing well there. We had a very pleasant voyage, the sea being perfectly calm, although most of us were a little sea-sick the first day. This being the season, Calcutta is full, and I am enjoying my visit to it. I send you, herein enclosed, a copy of the programme of the further tour and shall feel glad to hear from you. Believe me, yours sincerely,
CHAMA RAJENDRA WADIER.”

(XXVII). *Bangalore-Hindupur Railway Line.*—
When this line was first opened, there was an excursion trip. Mr. Thumboo Chetty received the following invitation :—

“ 31st August 1892.—My Dear Sir, His Highness the Maharajah and staff, accompanied by the Resident, will pay a few hours' visit to the ghat works on the Bangalore-Hindupur Line on Saturday next I am to say His Highness the Maharajah will be very glad to see you make one of the party, if the little excursion will give you pleasure and suit your convenience. I am, My Dear Sir, yours very sincerely, T. ANANDA RAO.”

Mr. Thumboo Chetty gladly availed himself of the kind invitation and the opportunity he had to revisit Hindupur, of which he was Munsiff before entering the Mysore Service, and of meeting his old friends there in the Bellary Zillah.

(XXVIII). *Legislation for Zemindaries*.—To prevent the dismemberment of ancient zemindaries in the Madras Presidency, it was proposed to legislate on the lines of Bengal Act IV of 1892. The Honourable Mr. Chentsal Rao consulted his friends, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty received the following circular :—

“Bangalore, 4th May 1892.—My Dear Sir, You are probably aware that the Government of India have recently passed an Act, No. IV of 1892, authorizing the Bengal Government to place encumbered private estates in charge of the Court of Wards, on the application of owners, and to allow the Court to retain them under their management till the debts are cleared off. The object of the Bill is to save ancient and deserving zemindaries from dismemberment. During the debate which took place when the above Act was passed, I ventured to express an opinion that a similar Bill for Madras would prove beneficial and prevent the dismemberment of some of our ancient estates, which are now heavily involved in debts, and I am anxious to know whether you approve of my idea. It is not at all my wish that all encumbered estates should be placed in charge of the Court of Wards, whether their owners wish for the same or not, nor do I think it necessary that it should be made incumbent upon Government to take up every estate on the mere application of the owners. While, on the one hand, it is improper for Government to interfere with the private rights of owners of property, except with their consent, it is, on the other hand, impolitic and destructive of all principles of self-reliance, to induce people to look up to Government for the management of their property. Nor can the Government successfully undertake the management of the

property of every private owner, who may wish for the same. The law I propose to have is designed only to meet hard cases. It is only when the owner of an estate applies for the help of Government, and the Government are satisfied that it is a case deserving of help, that I propose that Government should have power to take it under management. If a Zemindar is an unworthy character, and has wickedly involved himself in debts, and there is no chance of his mending his character, there can be no object in helping him, but there are cases in which good-natured men have been the victims of adverse circumstances, such as successive bad seasons, family dissensions, evil associations, corrupt subordinates and so forth, and there are also cases in which persons suffer for the sins of their ancestors, and it is only such men that I should like to protect and give a chance of maintaining their estates intact. It is true that private management is always more economical than management by Government, but there are certain advantages which, in this country, the Government possess and which private managers do not. For instance, if the Government take up the management and wish to raise loans to pay off the existing debts bearing high rates of interest, it would be possible for them to raise loans on a more moderate rate of interest than private individuals can ordinarily do; disputes between the landlord and tenants can be more easily settled by Government than by private individuals, as the tenants have great confidence in Government, and the Government have always at their disposal the best talent in the country and are able to give the Zemindars and raiyats the benefit of their large experience and knowledge in revenue matters. In short, Government management benefits the raiyats as well as Zemindars. If the encumbered estates are to be brought under management, it will be necessary to enact that, during the

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management of the estates by the Court of Wards, the owners should not be competent to borrow money without the consent of the Court. It was thought in Bengal that, rather than declare the owners incompetent to borrow money, it would be better to prevent Courts from enforcing their decrees on the property, without the leave of the Court, in the case of debts contracted during the management. The effects of the two methods is nearly the same, but I prefer the former, for reasons I have endeavoured to explain in my speech on the Bengal Bill. I request your opinion on this point also. The owners will, under any circumstances, be granted an allowance suited to their rank and condition in life, which they may spend as they please. I do not wish to discuss here the large question, whether the preservation of ancient aristocracies is good for the country or not; for my proposal is based on the assumption, that the existence of a well-conducted landed aristocracy in the country is a source of strength, politically, socially and economically. I enclose for your information a copy of the Bengal Act referred to above, with the debates in connection therewith, and I shall feel much obliged if you will kindly favour me with a reply before the end of June, as, in the event of my proposal meeting with the approval of the gentlemen I am consulting, I have to go up to Government and solicit their opinion and help. Yours sincerely, P. CHENTSAL RAO.

Opinions must, of course, differ on this important and difficult question. The creation of a landed aristocracy for India has its pros. and cons. There has been a vehement debate on the subject. Mr. Thumboo Chetty's reply to Mr. Chentsal Rao was as follows :—

“ Rugby Hall, Bangalore, May 27th, 1892.—My Dear Sir, I have had no time, ere this, to look over the papers you sent me, with your letter of 4th instant, in regard to the proposed legislation, with a view to save ancient and deserving zemindaries in the Madras Presidency from dismemberment. I quite approve of the idea to pass an enactment similar to the Bengal Court of Wards Amendment Act, 1892. The zemindars generally are noted for their improvidence and want of thrift. They have, in the majority of cases, completely mismanaged the estates, and as Mr. Thackeray very forcibly remarks, revenue is generally expended ‘to feed the idle and unproductive footmen, peons, dancing girls and Brahmins’—and it is wasted ‘in silly and ostentatious display, in tasteless and debasing luxury, in superstitious benefactions and in vice. I am one of those that consider the creation of a landed aristocracy in India a mistake, nay, impracticable, if not, undesirable. It is a notorious fact that the introduction of a class of intermediate proprietors, who are invariably wanting in education and the powers of judicious management, between the Government and the cultivators of the soil, has, in a degree, annihilated the rights of the raiyats, has caused vexatious and ruinous litigation to both parties, divested the producers of agricultural wealth of their rights, and deprived them, for ever, of the power of accumulation. Take for instance, the case of such a big, valuable and splendid hereditary jaghire, as Yelandur in Mysore, which was granted to Dewan Purniah, whose descendants, entangled in debts and difficulties, allowed mortgages and alienations to their prejudice. But for the interference of a benign Government and the passing of a special Regulation, the present holders of the Jaghire would have been reduced to a state of helplessness, thereby frustrating the original intentions of the grantors of the jaghire, namely,

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that it should be preserved intact and enjoyed permanently by Dewan Purniah and his descendants from posterity to posterity as long as the sun and moon last. When such has been the case, even with regard to important zemindaries, we cannot hope to succeed in raising and maintaining a respectable landed aristocracy in India, unless Government extend their paternal solicitude and care for them. I, therefore, submit that where such zemindaries are encumbered and the proprietors find it difficult to manage their estates, and voluntarily apply to Government for interference and help, it is absolutely necessary that Government should assume management for a stated period, and prevent the estates passing into the hands of speculators, who sometimes may belong to the very dregs and refuse of society, unacquainted with the habits, the feelings, the wants, and even the language of the cultivators. I think that, even in cases in which the zemindar does not apply, the Government ought to interfere, by assuming temporary management of the estate, when they are satisfied that the estate is grossly mismanaged and the raiyats are oppressed and are not in full possession of their rights and privileges, and that a continuance of the mismanagement of the zemindary will tend to subvert the rights of the cultivators which it is the duty of the law to protect. It is the bounden duty of Government to interfere in all such cases in the exercise of their paramount power of protecting the subjects. Section 60(A) sufficiently provides against improper alienations made by a zemindar while his estate is under the management of a Court of Wards. Execution against the estate will not be allowed except with the leave of the Court. Such leave will not be granted unless the debt decreed is considered by the Court of Wards to have been contracted by the ward, *bona fide*, and for a real necessity, while the property was in charge of the Court. But it is inexpedient and against sound policy to declare

that the owner of a zemindary is utterly incompetent to borrow money without the consent of the Court of Wards. The allowance granted to the owner may, owing to unforeseen circumstances, or other calamities that befall him, be found to be insufficient, when he may be under the unavoidable necessity of borrowing money. There may be no time to obtain the consent of the Court of Wards. The emergency may be such as to compel the zemindar to borrow at once, and it would be cruel, if not unjust, to fetter him with any such restriction as that proposed by you. Yours sincerely, T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY."

(XXIX). *Lord Lansdowne's visit to Mysore.*—In 1892, when Lord Lansdowne came to Mysore, His Excellency was extremely pleased with every thing that he saw. On that occasion, Colonel Clarke, in his letter to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, dated 16th December 1892, wrote :—

"Lord Lansdowne's speeches strike me as bearing the merit of being very practical, and less made up of mere oratorical platitudes than has been usual in such addresses I was especially glad to see His Excellency's remarks on the Maharajah's Government, and on His Highness himself. They will have been much appreciated, as I am sure they were well deserved The country has prospered wonderfully in spite of the scarcity through which it has passed. The finances are marvelously buoyant, and not even famine or semi-famine, which must have led to large remissions to the raiyats, can check the growth of the revenue. No doubt the gold mines have been a rich source of new income, and the Revenue Settlement has done the rest."

(XXX). *Sir K. Seshadri Iyer Knighted.*—On the 28th June 1893, at the dinner given at the Govern-

ment House, by Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, K.C.S.I., Dewan of Mysore, in honour of the Knighthood conferred on him, he proposed the health of the Queen-Empress, which was drunk with all honours. Then he proposed the health of H. H. the Maharajah, which was heartily responded to. The Resident next proposed the health of the host, and, in doing so, made the following significant observation, which refers to certain officers who helped the Dewan in carrying on the administration, of whom Mr. Thumboo Chetty was one :—

“It was the good fortune of the Dewan to be aided in his task, at the outset, by a body of officers trained under British Rule, to systematic habits of work, and imbued with that high sense of duty which has ever been the distinguishing character of the judicial and executive service in India. A new generation is springing up without that special form of training, but I trust none the less they will be the inheritors of the good qualities and traditions of their predecessors. With the spread of education in this State I hope that, in addition to holding their share of appointments reserved for nomination, the Mysorean born element, of various castes and classes, will strive to prevail in the open competition for appointments in the public service of the State, for it is from them that an intimate knowledge of, and a keener sympathy with, the people may naturally be expected.”

It may here be noted that Mr. Thumboo Chetty was the senior ex-officio Member of the State Council even during Mr. Ranga Charlu's Dewanship. Afterwards, Colonel Ludlow, C.I.E., head of the

Hyderabad Police and an old officer of the Mysore Commission, spoke admiringly of the many improvements that had been effected in the Province since his time, and proposed the health of Colonel Grant, Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, his old friends, and officers of the State. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, in acknowledging the toast proposed by Colonel Ludlow, spoke as follows :—

“Colonel Henderson, Ladies and Gentlemen.—In rising to acknowledge the toast which my old friend, Colonel Ludlow, has so kindly proposed and to which you have so cordially and enthusiastically responded, I beg to offer, on behalf of myself and all the officers of the Mysore Government, our heartfelt thanks and warmest acknowledgments, for the very high compliment you have paid, and for the very flattering manner in which you have referred to the usefulness and efficiency of the Mysore Service. As one of the oldest Native Officers of this State, connected with it for more than 26 years, that is, 14 years prior and 12 years subsequent, to the Rendition, it is a source of just pride to me to have to acknowledge a toast which alludes, in glowing terms, to the success achieved by the Mysore Administration subsequent to the Rendition. The superstructure of the present Government, we all know, has been raised and has sprung upon the solid foundations well and firmly laid by 50 years of British Rule, and no one, who has watched the course of events in Mysore for the past six or seven decades, can fail to perceive the principal causes which led to the success of His Highness' administration. The principles upon which H. H. the Maharajah has, for more than twelve years, governed five millions of his beloved subjects, are those enumerated in the Instrument of Transfer, executed at the time of that auspicious event, the

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Rendition, principles which are calculated to conduce to the advancement of civilization, to the promotion of industry and commerce, and to the welfare and happiness of the territories of Mysore. Acting on these principles, His Highness has ruled, with eminent prudence and benevolence, a State which has now well deserved to be regarded as one of the Model Native States of India. Almost the same laws and rules that are in force in British India are in force in Mysore, the system of administration of the various departments is the same as that obtaining in British India; and, if the Mysore Service has proved itself equal to the difficult and responsible task of administering the State, on certain approved and well recognized principles, approaching to the high standard of efficiency maintained in British India, it is chiefly because the way to such good Government has been paved and smoothened by previous British regime for half a century. Although His Highness' Government had to commence work on the lines laid down by the former British administration, yet the country was handed over very shortly after a period of tribulation and distress caused by a famine of unparalleled severity, the recovery from which would have strained the nerves and tested the strength of any administration, however well constituted, more especially as the finances were crippled and the State had to arrange for the liquidation of a very heavy famine debt and adopt measures to provide itself against, and to prevent, if possible, the recurrence of a similar calamity. His Highness' administration commenced under such heavy disadvantages has, under Providential aids, not only overcome them successfully, but advanced the prosperity and augmented the resources of the country, and made marked improvement in the efficiency and usefulness of every department within the very short period of twelve years. All this is due to the wise and intelligent direction of our beloved Maha-

rajah, and the indefatigable exertions and statesmanlike abilities of our esteemed Dewan. During the past ten years, there have been several wholesome changes in the administration. The codification of the Revenue Laws, the inauguration of the system under which all revenue appeals are heard and disposed of by a committee of Councillors, the institution of the Dassara Assembly with the power of election, conceding, at the same time, to the representatives of the people, the right of interpellation and the liberty of expressing opinions on important matters connected with the administration, the establishment of a Chief Court with three Judges, the rapid progress of the Revenue Survey and Settlement, which is fast approaching completion, the increase of education, of railways, of public works and irrigation works, of the gold mining and coffee industries, the development of the forest revenues, and the institution of a special local Civil Service for Mysore, have all tended to promote the efficiency of the administration, to improve the finances and to advance the happiness of the people. There is a perceptible progress in almost every department, which is manned by officers carefully selected for proved ability and fitness for the discharge of the onerous duties devolving on them. The Judicial, Revenue, Financial, Legislative, Registration, Police, Educational and Local Fund and Municipal Departments are under the direct control and supervision of Native Officers. Seven out of eight collectorates are also in charge of Native Officers. The other departments, which are presided over by European Officers, namely, Public Works, Forest and Medical, are worked with Native Officers, who, I am sure, would, in the course of a few years, qualify themselves for independent charges and come up to a standard which, judged even according to the European standard, would be the highest standard of efficiency maintained under British administration. There

is now, in Mysore, a mixture of officers of all races and creeds. There are Europeans, Hindus, Mahomedans, Parsis and Christians in the various grades, which make the service somewhat cosmopolitan and thoroughly popular, so as to ensure public confidence and secure, to all classes, their just rights: this is another reason for the success of His Highness' administration. His Highness has the reputation of being extremely careful and cautious in making appointments and giving preference to the best talent available, without reference to caste, colour or creed; and so long as this principle is maintained, there is every guarantee for the efficiency and success of the Mysore Service. His Highness is particularly fortunate in having now as his principal officers (both European and Native) some of those who have gained varied experience and who have had special training under British Government prior to the Rendition; and conspicuous among them is no other than the present able, enlightened and popular Dewan, who is the soul of the administration, who has discharged the greatest trust reposed in him by His Highness the Maharajah most faithfully and conscientiously, pursuing at the same time a sound policy. It was in recognition of the eminent and valuable services rendered to the State that Her Majesty the Queen-Empress has been most graciously pleased to admit him to the Knighthood of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, a distinction and honour which he richly deserves and which every one in the Mysore Service and the whole of the people of Mysore are justly proud of. It is unnecessary for me here to refer in detail to the merits of our Dewan which are so well known. His liberal encouragement of both popular and higher education has been very beneficial to the country. His financial abilities have wiped off a heavy debt and produced a large surplus which is usefully employed on railway and public works, and his

high ideal and notion of duty and of purity have wonderfully improved the tone and efficiency of the whole service. Under the able supervision of such an accomplished and distinguished Dewan as Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, and the enlightened and paternal guidance of His Highness the Maharajah, who reigns in the hearts of all his subjects and whose motto is 'The end of the Government is the happiness of the governed,' there is every hope that Mysore will continue to enjoy free and uninterrupted liberty, perfect safety, and security of life and property, as well as all happiness and prosperity. Before resuming my seat, I beg once more to convey the sincere thanks of all the officers of the Mysore State for the toast proposed in their behalf, and I beg also personally to offer my very best thanks for the honour done to me, which I do not deserve, of my name being coupled with that toast."

The Mysore *Vrithanda Bodhini*, commenting on Mr. Thumboo Chetty's speech, wrote :—

"The *post prandial* speech of Mr. Thumboo Chetty, Chief Judge of the Mysore Chief Court, at the banquet given by Sir Seshadri Iyer, in honour of the investiture ceremony, in responding to Colonel Ludlow's—'The officers of the Mysore Government'—was a most interesting and instructive one. As the senior officer in the Mysore Service, he was able to speak with authority and experience on the several causes that have led to the successful administration of Mysore, and any statement made by such an officer is worthy of public attention and respect. The Chief Judge frankly admits advantages derived by the administration of the State by the late British Commission, and draws the reasonable and logical conclusion that the present success is due to the past sound principles on which the administrative foundation was laid. The principles in-

involved in the Instrument of Transfer, on the Rendition, have been so faithfully carried out that Mysore is regarded as one of the best—if not the best of the Native States in India—that it has been exceptionally ruled has been borne testimony to by Lord Lansdowne when His Excellency visited Mysore last November. The end of a Government is the happiness of the governed, said Lord Lansdowne, and how well this principle is carried out the reader can best judge for himself."

(XXXa). *Drive in a Steam Carriage with the Maharajah :—*

"Saturday—My Dear Sir, His Highness wishes to know if you would like to go with him in the steam carriage drive to-morrow morning at 7-30, to start from the palace stables. Yours very sincerely, A. NURSIM IYENGAR."

What a condescension on the part of His Highness? Mr. Thumboo Chetty immensely enjoyed the drive and was agreeably surprised at the exhibition of His Highness the Maharajah's thorough knowledge of the mechanism of the steam engine and at the facility with which His Highness handled it along the roads of the Mysore City, crowded with foot-passengers and bullock carts.

(XXXI). *Trip to Nundidrug :—*

"24th April 1893—My Dear Thumboo Chettiar, Nundidrug is very pleasant, and I can strongly advise you to give yourself and family a change to it. I have quite ready, for you, the very picturesque bungalow at the gate, which the late Major Kensington got repaired and fitted up for Government officers. It is very near the water-supply, and I shall keep it vacant for you until

you decide to come. Believe me, yours sincerely,
K. SHESHADRI IYER."

Mr. Thumboo Chetty very much enjoyed the trip to Nundidrug and short stay there. The scenery was beautiful and the water most delicious. During the time of Mr. Bowring and some of his successors, Nundidrug was their favourite resort in the hottest month of the year, and the exodus to the Nilgiris was commenced, after the extension of the Railway to Mettupalaiyam and since then, Nundidrug has been deserted, if not altogether abandoned.

(XXXII). *The Raja Dharma Pravina Thumboo Chettiar Dispensary*.—This charitable institution, the foundation stone of which was laid by the philanthropic donor, on the 24th December 1893, was completed in 1895. The dispensary is situated between the Bowring Civil Hospital and St. Paul's Church. On the dispensary becoming an accomplished fact, the building attached to the Bowring Hospital, heretofore used as a dispensary for out-door patients, was intended to be utilized for the General Lying-in Hospital. The following letter was from Mr. Lee-Warner, the British Resident :—

" Dear Mr. Thumboo Chetty, I should be very glad, if you could call in and see me on Monday ; between 11 and 12 would suit me best, if it suited you. I want to talk about your excellent gift to the hospital, an institution

in which I take the greatest interest. Yours sincerely,
W. LEE-WARNER."

It was subsequent to the interview referred to in this letter, the dispensary was opened to the public, after the usual ceremonies.

(XXXIII). *Marriages of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's last Daughter and second Son.*—In April 1894, when the marriages of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's youngest daughter and second son were celebrated at his residence, No. 58, Thumboo Chetty Street, Madras, His Highness the Maharajah, who was then at Ootacamund, was graciously pleased to permit Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer to proceed to Madras and to be present at the wedding festivities, and sent a letter of congratulation in His Highness' own handwriting as follows :—

"27th April 1894, Ootacamund—My Dear Thumboo Chetty, I was very glad to learn that the marriages of your youngest daughter and of your second son are to be celebrated to-day. I congratulate you on this occasion and express my hearty good wishes for their happiness and prosperity. Believe me, yours sincerely, CHAMA RAJENDRA WADIER."

(XXXIV). *The Polygars in Mysore* form a large class, and the State allows to each family a pension. His Highness the Maharajah was, in 1894, desirous of increasing the pensions which were small, they having been fixed several years ago. The pensions were accordingly raised suitably, and His Highness extended to the Mysore Polygar

pensions the same rule of succession as applied to Palayapat lands in Madras. His Highness was further pleased to encourage the education of this backward class by grant of special scholarships. A member of the Polygar family, who received a decent English education, was generously helped by His Highness' Government to proceed to England and study for the Bar ; but the Polygar, who was a promising youth, met with a premature death. Mr. Mayne, to whom he was recommended by Mr. Thumhoo Chetty, alludes to him in the following letter, which embraces also one or two other interesting topics :—

“Goodrest, Reading, Berkshire, December 12, 1894,—
My Dear Thumboo Chetty, I had a visit lately from your young Polygar, Kristnama Naick, who seems a nice manly young fellow, whom I was very glad to know. He gave me an admirable photograph of you which pleased me greatly. You look exactly the same as when I last saw you, about 25 years ago, so time must be dealing gently with you. I have been intending every day to write and thank you for it, when I got yours of 15th November and the number of your Reports of cases decided by the Mysore Chief Court. I should like very much to have the whole set and the future Nos. if your Government would favour me with them, without any expense to you. The number sent is very well got up, and there cannot fail to be cases, both in Hindu and Criminal Law, which would interest me and which I might use for my books. I believe you have adopted the Penal Code as it stands. I am getting on very well with my new book on Criminal Law, and, as soon as it is out, I will tell Higginbotham to send

you a copy for your own private use. I am taking immense pains with it, and I hope to make it really useful. Please drop the 'Sir' in writing to me. We are too old friends for such an unfriendly term. With very kind wishes for the New Year, Believe me, to be very sincerely, yours,
JOHN D. MAYNE."

(XXXV). *The Mysore Law Reports* have been regularly sent to Mr. Mayne, in compliance with his request. In his last edition of "Hindu Law and Usage," he has referred to some of the decisions of the Mysore Chief Court, whereby the Mysore Law Reports have obtained a certain amount of importance and publicity. Just as a tree is known by its fruits, so a Court of Law is judged by its decisions. Almost all the Laws in force in British India are applicable to Mysore, and the decisions of the Mysore Chief Court often bear on points of law analogous to those arising in British Indian Courts.

(XXXVI). *Students' Home*.—While in the Mysore City and other places, which are head-quarters of districts, there are Students' Homes, for the convenience of those who had to leave their homes and to prosecute their studies in Colleges and High Schools, the establishment of a Students' Home in an important place like Bangalore had long engaged the attention of Government and what assistance Mr. Thumboo Chetty rendered towards the accomplishment of this desirable object will be seen from a perusal of the following note :—

"Mysore, 4th April 1894.—My Dear Mr. Thumboo Chettiar, I would like to decide something definite regarding the location of the Students' Home at an early date. I am afraid it has to be put into a portion of the Central Jail compound. If you will let me have your final views of what should be done with a plan of existing buildings and re-arrangements, etc., required, I shall feel very much obliged. Yours very sincerely, K. SHESHADRI IYER."

A portion of the jail site was accordingly set apart and the present commodious and useful hostel behind the Central College, Bangalore, was erected.

(XXXVII). *The Honourable Sir T. Muthusawmy Iyer, K.C.S.I.*—This eminent Judge of the Madras High Court died in January 1895. Some of the Madras papers noticed the claims of two eligible candidates for the vacant Judgeship, and one of them was Mr. Thumboo Chetty. The following appeared in the *Times*:—

"There are two native Christian Judges, whose names deserve mention in this connection, Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, Chief Judge of the Mysore Chief Court and Mr. Subramanyam Iyer, Second Judge of the Madras Small Cause Court. The former has been on the Bench of the Mysore Chief Court for more than ten years. A reference to the Mysore Law Reports will show that he is an independent, impartial and sound Judge. He is highly respected, and his forensic knowledge is not inferior to any of the would-be candidates for the High Court Judgeship. He was formerly Manager of the Madras Legislative Council, and filled, with credit, the various appointments of Munsiff, Sub-Judge, District Judge, and higher appoint-

ments. He is remarkably quick in appreciation of evidence and in the despatch of business and thoroughly sound in his judgments. He will be a great acquisition to the Bench of the Madras High Court. Mr. Subramanyam Iyer has also fair claims for the appointment. He is a Barrister-at-Law, and, as Acting Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court, has gained much popularity. Either of these will give universal satisfaction as a member of the Madras High Court. Mr. Thumboo Chettiyar has the additional advantage of having been an Executive Officer, Judge and Councillor in one of the model Native States and has already won golden opinions in Mysore."

It may here be noted that Mr. Thumboo Chetty had personally no aspirations for such an office after having retired from the British Service, and preferred to end his days in Mysore to which he had devoted the best and greater portion of his life.

(XXXVIII.) *The Khedda Operations in Mysore in November 1895 during His Excellency Lord Elgin's visit* were so successful, and the splendid catch and exhibition of the elephants brought into the stockade were so very interesting that Lady Mackworth Young wanted to commemorate the event by a drawing of elephants on a table cloth, by each and every one of the guests of Her Highness, the Maharani-Regent, C.I. Mr. Thumboo Chetty was one of those who drew up the figure of an elephant in compliance with the kind request contained in the following letter :—

"The RESIDENCY, March 25th, 1896.—MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—You were good enough to promise to

draw an elephant and to sign your name on my table cloth. I send the cloth, and shall be very much obliged if you will be so good as to draw an elephant yourself and to send the cloth on to Mr. Abdul Rahman. If it can be returned to me to-day, I shall be glad, as I am leaving for Coonoor to-morrow. Yours truly, F. M. YOUNG."

(XXXIX.) *His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor* paid a visit to Mysore in November 1889, when there was a magnificent reception in the Capital of the State. On that occasion also, the Khedda operations in the Kakenkote Forests were a great success, so much so that there was a complete album prepared, a copy of which Mr. Thumboo Chetty received with the following letter:—

"BANGALORE, 13th January 1891.—MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTIAR,—I have much pleasure in sending you with my best compliments for your kind acceptance a copy of the album with letter-press, illustrating the capture of wild elephants in Mysore during the visit of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor. Yours very sincerely, K. SHESHADRI IYER."

This album will be a memento of that great event, and the handsome glass exhibition-house erected in the Bangalore Lal Bagh will also for ever commemorate the visit of a Prince, whose premature and universally regretted death occurred soon after the Indian subjects and the Mysore people and the Mysore Royal Family had the great pleasure and honour of receiving him most enthusiastically and loyally.

(XL.) *The Mysore Oriental Library and Mr. M. N. Dutt*, M.A.—As member in charge of the Education portfolio, Mr. Thumboo Chetty interested himself in the work of the Mysore Oriental Library and publication of old Sanskrit books. In 1895, he made the acquaintance of Mr. Manmatha Nath Dutt, M.A., M.R.A.S., Rector of the Keshub Academy, whose translation of the great epics of India deserved encouragement. Mr. Thumboo Chetty found in Mr. Dutt an excellent friend, a great patriot and a scholar, reputed for Sanskrit learning, who remarked :—

“A taste for the great Sanskrit works of antiquity enshrining the wisdom and learning of the Hindus has been developing itself among the more advanced spirits of the West.”

This is true, as the various works from time to time published by the Mysore Oriental Library, under the management of Mr. Mahadeva Sastri, B.A., testify to the usefulness and significance of our ancient literature, and give an impetus to Sanskrit learning.

(XLI.) *Musical Entertainment in the Palace*.—The following invite was sent :—

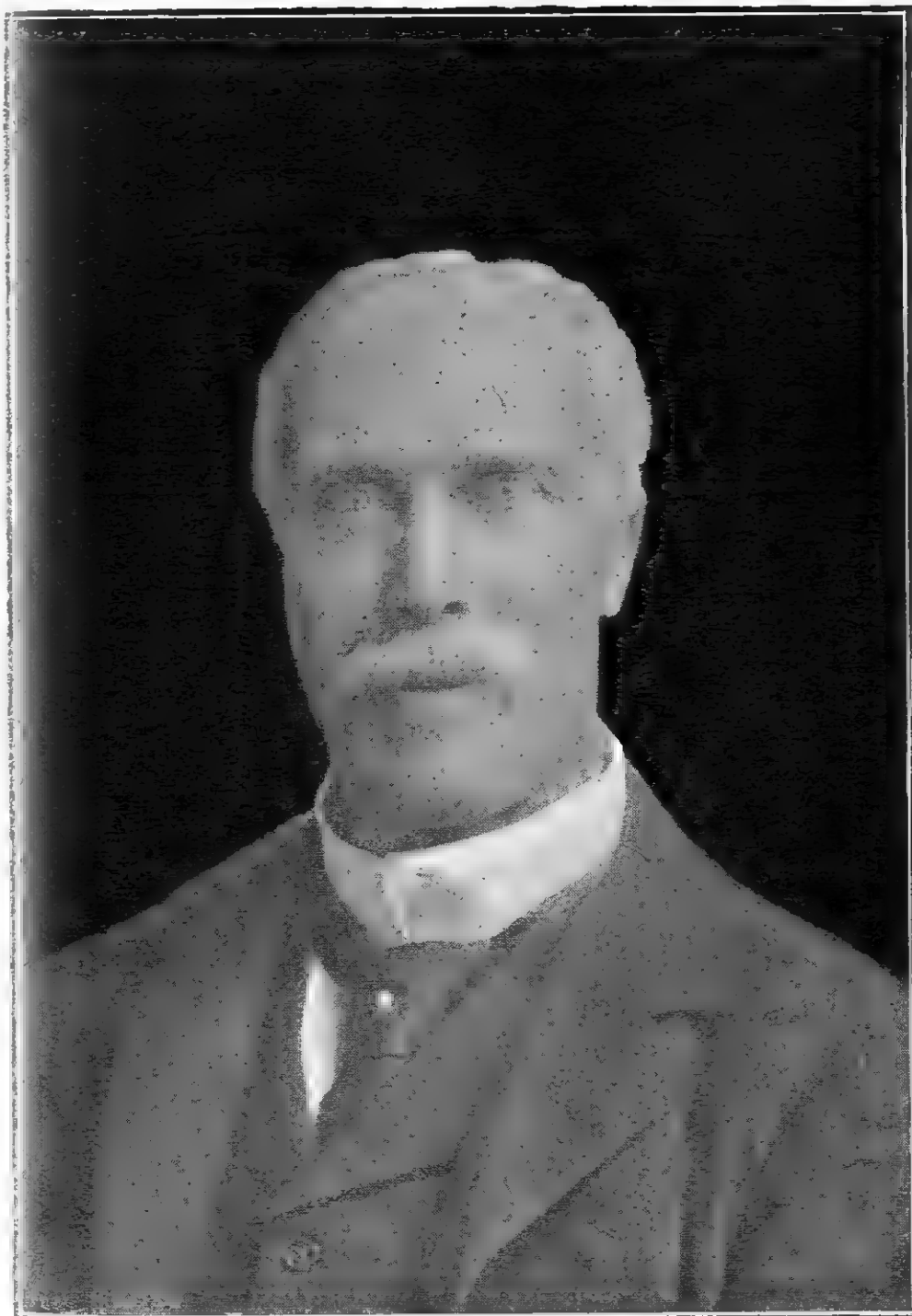
“BANGALORE, 5th August 1898,—DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—Mr. Phillips will give Pianoforte recital on Thursday next, at 5-30 p.m., and it will give Her Highness the Maharani great pleasure if you will come to the Palace to hear him. Yours sincerely, J. A. CAMPBELL, Private Secretary to Her Highness the Maharani-Regent.”

The following is Mr. Thumboo Chetty's note of the entertainment :—

"This musical entertainment is the best I have ever witnessed in the palace. Mr. Phillips, an aged gentleman, displayed magnificent skill, swiftness and dexterity in handling the piano. The recital was excellent. The peculiarity of talent exhibited was so remarkable that the audience really admired the player for his high proficiency in the art of music."

(XLII.) *Sir William Lee-Warner, K.C.S.I.*—On the 13th September 1895, a farewell entertainment was given in the Hiudu Social Club to the British Resident, Mr. (afterwards Sir) William Lee-Warner on his departure to England. The important part of the programme was the speech of Mr. Thumboo Chettiar and the reply of Mr. Lee-Warner. The former spoke as follows :—

"GENERAL GOSSETT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I have been asked to say a few words on this occasion, and it affords me immense pleasure to be the exponent of the feelings, not only of all here present, but of the inhabitants of Bangalore, in connection with this farewell entertainment to our distinguished and worthy British Resident, Mr. Lee-Warner. It is, at all times, a pleasing task to do honour to those we esteem, but the pleasure manifestly increases when this esteem is shared, not only by such a numerous and respectable body of friends as those here assembled, but by all classes of the citizens of Bangalore, and, I should add, by the people of Mysore. This entertainment has been got up somewhat in a hurry, and the programme had to be cut short owing to the other engagements which Mr. Lee-Warner has to-night after six. It is



SIR WILLIAM LEE-WARNER, K.C.S.I.

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very much to be regretted that, after the magnificent entertainments we have so frequently enjoyed at the Residency under the princely hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Lee-Warner, we have not been able to arrange for this entertainment being given on a larger scale. I trust, however, that what little has been done will be kindly accepted by Mr. and Mrs. Lee-Warner, overlooking all shortcomings and supplying what may be wanting, the feelings of esteem and gratitude which prompted the getting up of this entertainment. Welcoming a friend on his new arrival is a more agreeable task than bidding him farewell when he is about to leave us ; but, in the present case, however, the parting ceremony has to be performed with mingled feelings of sorrow and joy. There is universal and unfeigned regret felt by all classes of people at Mr. Lee-Warner's approaching departure, but, at the same time, we are glad to learn that he is going to take up a very important appointment at the India Office in England, and, while he is there, let us hope that his vast Indian experience will enable him to do his best to promote the high interests of India, and that Mysore and Bangalore, where his Indian official career closes, will certainly not be forgotten, but remain always engraved on his heart. It is only six months since we had the pleasure and honour of warmly welcoming Mr. Lee-Warner as the British Resident of Mysore and the *de facto* ruler of this station, and we then hoped he would remain with us for many years to come and do substantial good, in various ways, to the people of the place, but we were, however, sadly disappointed to hear of his transfer within a few months of his arrival, and just at a time when the long pending question of water-supply was engaging his anxious consideration. Bangalore owes its growth and increase of wealth to its bracing climate, to its being connected with all the principal lines of railway communication, to its close proximity to the flourishing

Gold Fields of Kolar, and to its being a large Military Station. With a permanent water-supply, which, I hope, will soon be an accomplished fact, Bangalore may, if I may use the expression, be transformed into a Garden of Eden. In addition to these advantages, which are not enough to secure the prosperity of the station, we have a thoroughly good local administration. In this respect, we must be thankful to the Government of India, who have always been careful to send us picked men to administer to the wants of this important station. But unfortunately, of late, we have had a too frequent change of Residents. This is perhaps unavoidable, as the Mysore Residency had always been regarded as a stepping-stone for further advancement. Out of a long line of illustrious Chief Commissioners and British Residents in Mysore, with whom I have had the honour of being acquainted during the past three decades nearly, Mr. Lee-Warner's career has been the shortest, but not the less brilliant. During the short time he has been here, he has won golden opinions, both as British Resident and as the Governor of this station, and has given proof of his immense capacity for business, his untiring industry, acute statesmanship, his sympathy with the people, and his generosity and kindness of heart. He has evinced great interest in the cause of education. Almost all the schools, orphanages and public institutions, both in the Station and City, were inspected by him. He has paid particular attention to Municipal matters. He has kept himself constantly informed of the sanitary condition of the various parts of the station. His sudden visit to hospitals and police stations, and his personal interviews with people produced wholesome effect. He has made himself felt everywhere, and it is no exaggeration to say that he has displayed singular devotion to duty and a remarkable earnestness to promote the interests of the people under his rule. It is sometimes said that European Admin-

istrators are not good judges of native character, as they do not come in close contact with the people. This cannot be said of Mr. Lee-Warner. It is an open secret that during his lonely walks and rides within and along the village boundaries of this station, he has, by conversing freely with the people here and there, gained much useful and valuable information. Any one who wanted to see him on business was able to see him at any time without a previous request or appointment. He was readily accessible to all who had any representations to make to him. His public utterances were very impressive and instructive, indicating a mind buoyant with thought, rich in intellectual wealth, and containing most valuable suggestions. In this connection, I may be permitted to convey our warmest thanks to Mrs. Lee-Warner for having kindly assisted at the distribution of prizes in various schools, which was the immediate occasion for the delivery of these excellent speeches. I have thus far confined my observations to Mr. Lee-Warner's connection with this station. It may not be out of place here to say that, as British Resident, Mr. Lee-Warner has evinced the greatest solicitude for the welfare of His Highness the young Maharajah of Mysore. Under his advice, Her Highness the Maharani Regent, C. I., has been able to make the most satisfactory arrangements for the education and training of His Highness during his minority, and we may rest assured that the good seed sown in this respect will bear good fruit in course of time, *i.e.*, by the time His Highness attains age and assumes charge of the reins of Government himself. Mr. Lee-Warner's advent to Mysore was most opportune. He came in just at a time when the new Council was formed, and had to be worked under a set of rules specially sanctioned by the Government of India. As the author of a most valuable work on the Native States, which will for

ever stand as a monument of his fame,—his experience, wise counsels and able guidance enabled the Mysore Government to settle all matters of difficulty easily, and to commence and continue work smoothly. In Mr. Lee-Warner, both His Highness the Maharajah and Her Highness the Maharani and the people of Mysore have found a true and genuine friend and a sincere well-wisher of Mysore and everything connected with it. I feel sure, therefore, that I am expressing the feelings of every one who hears me when I say that Mr. Lee-Warner has really won the hearts of the people of Mysore, including those of the station so as to entitle him to their respect, gratitude and good feelings. In conclusion, I doubt not you will all join me in wishing most heartily and fervently that Mr. and Mrs. Lee-Warner will have a safe and pleasant voyage home, that they will both be spared long to enjoy the society of their many friends and relations at home, and that Mr. Lee-Warner's future official career will be as bright and prosperous as his past."

Mr. Lee-Warner in reply said :—

"MR. THUMBOO CHETTY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—You, Sir, in referring to experiences of three decades of Residents, have endowed me with virtues which I cannot claim, but you have loaded me with obligations which I can never discharge. Gentlemen, the unexpected warmth of your reception of me is an honour so undeserved and so highly valued by me that you must forgive me if I find no adequate words to express my sentiments of deep gratitude to you. From the European society of Bangalore I have received such a succession of kind attentions that I feel that, in the ordinary course of human nature, you must all begin to be tired of the subject and wish for a change of scene. But most highly as I value, and as my

present task would wish and expect me to value the attentions of my own countrymen, I must admit that the honour which your Club and your committee have done me affords me a satisfaction perfectly unique. For I have done nothing better than what others have done before me in the way of social courtesies or public duty, which could lead me to expect the signal honour you have conferred upon me this evening. I attribute your generosity to that cordiality and fellow-feeling which, so happily for the common interest and happiness of all classes, prevail in Bangalore society. The fact that European society has been pleased to confer on me—unworthy as I am of it—the honour of farewell entertainments, is not with you a sufficient reason why native society should at once discountenance the compliment. Yet, I grieve to say that there are parts of India where prejudice and the wild utterances of a section of the vernacular press have produced this result, deplored, I know, by the best class of Indian society, but working towards that estrangement between the subjects of the Queen-Empress, which it is the duty, alike of officials and non-officials, to prevent. At the close of one's Indian career it is to me a most gratifying circumstance that my departure should have been an occasion for calling into activity and exhibiting this unity of sentiment, which makes the native part of this station unwilling to lag behind the Cantonment in wishing Mrs. Lee-Warner and myself a pleasant voyage and a hearty good-bye. It is an ill-natured and untruthful clique which asserts that the principle of British rule is '*Divide et Impera.*' Our whole policy, our daily work and the fundamental principles of Her Majesty's Proclamation and the work of our Legislatures give the lie to that baseless charge of discontented grumblers. Some newspapers,—happily not in Mysore—may like to 'haunt the wound

hurting the hurt,' but you here will have none of it, and the series of arches and presentations of flowers through which I have passed to this Club is the best testimony possible to your willingness to be blind to my faults and to my virtues very kind, because other classes of united society have done me an undeserved honour, and you wish to show that you are ready to take part in a general movement. Although I know how unworthy I am of this honour, I rejoice that during my last few hours of service, I have been permitted to be the recipient of your kindly feeling. We shall carry home the warmest affection for, and interest in, this station and its many wants. The completion of your water and drainage scheme, the enlargement of your hospital, the development of your schools, the prosperity and welfare of the whole station will always enlist our sympathies and any help we can afford. During the seven months I have been here, I have not been able to do a fraction of what I should have liked to do in these matters, but, although I do not deserve the praise awarded to me by Mr. Thumboo Chetty, I do hope that I have moved these vital interests of the station on a little bit, and made them, I trust, a little easier to deal with. It is impossible for me not to promise to take home, in this important State and its Ruling, the interest (may I say the most personal and abiding interest) which your Chairman has bespoken. The kindness I have received from all about the Palace and the Mysore Government can never be forgotten, and the entertainment which my kind friends of the station have provided for Mrs. Lee-Warner and myself will be the pleasantest of all our pleasant memories of Bangalore. Most cordially do we reciprocate your good wishes for long life, happiness and welfare. We must take our bodies off, but we shall leave our hearts behind and take yours with us. For my wife and myself I once more thank you for the care you have bestowed on

this reception, the cordiality of your welcome, the dexterity and the excellence of the entertainments and the feelings which have suggested their kindly farewell."

(XLIII.) *Mr. C. Appasawmy Pillai* was one of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's earlier teachers in the Free Church Mission Institution, who laboured with zeal and perseverance in the education of youth, and whose prudent training was a blessing to young Thumboo, and his sentiments were conveyed in the following letter to Mr. Appasawmy Pillai, dated Bangalore, 5th January 1895:—

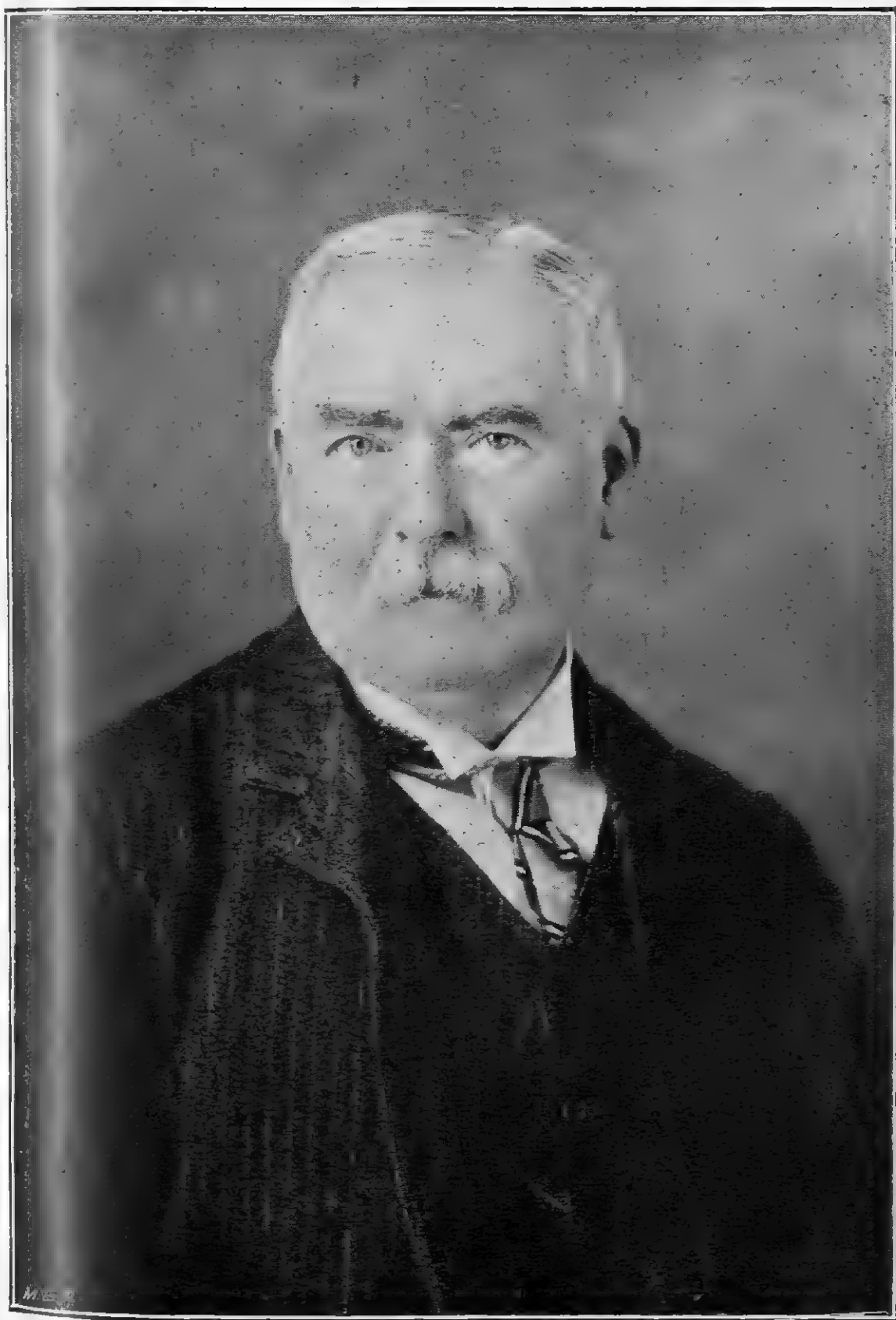
"MY DEAR SIR,—I was, indeed, very glad to learn of your recovery from your late illness. Of all the converts of the late Free Church Mission Institution (the first fruits of the present huge tree planted by that zealous Missionary the Reverend John Anderson) you are the oldest now surviving. As a pupil of the same institution, I have a pleasing recollection of your career from the commencement, and I am proud to say that you have done credit both to the institution that gave you education and to the Missionaries who were instrumental in bringing you to the fold of Christ. You have, by your exemplary conduct, amiable disposition, industry and usefulness endeared yourself both to your Christian and non-Christian friends. I beg that you will on this day on which you have attained the fiftieth year of your conversion to Christianity (the Golden Jubilee) kindly accept a small silver plate as a token of gratitude and a souvenir from your old pupil and devoted friend, T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY."

(XLIV.) *X Ray Experiments*.—The wonderful advance of Physical Science and the success

Mr. Cook, M.A., Principal of the Bangalore Central College, met with in his X Ray experiments referred to in the subjoined letter will be interesting to those who watch the march of intellect in the direction of new discoveries which are as marvellous as they are useful to human kind :—

"CENTRAL COLLEGE, BANGALORE, 15th July 1896.—MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY, ... Herewith I send you specimen of my experiments with the new photography. The experiment on the broken arm of a Bowring Hospital patient will, no doubt, interest you who have done so much for that institution. The other is the photo on the hand of ———I am sorry that the former photo has got somewhat marked in the washing and fixing. With kind regards, yours sincerely, J. COOK. P.S.—The white spot in one of the finger bones is not any disease, but some mark in the paper merely."

(XLV.) *The Palace Conflagration at Mysore.*—The old Mysore Palace, *i.e.*, the front portion built by Dewan Purniah soon after the fall of Seringapatam which stood for nearly a century, was destroyed suddenly by a conflagration that was caused to the marriage pandal of H. H. the First Princess after the termination of the marriage festivities. In connection with this sad catastrophe, all the palace jewels had to be minutely and carefully examined and re-catalogued by a Special Committee, of which Mr. Thumboo Chetty was President. This was a very arduous, delicate and difficult task, which entailed continued and protracted sitting of the committee for more than a month. The work was completed



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satisfactorily and valuable suggestions were made for the future safe custody and a periodical examination of the jewels valued at several lacs of rupees.

(XLVI.) *The Diamond Jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India.*—The Native Catholic and Protestant Christians of Bangalore unitedly took part in responding to the proposal of Prince Harnam Singh, through whose exertions the Indian Native Christian address of congratulation was suitably presented, as will be seen from the following letter sent to Mr, Thumboo Chetty :—

“THE MANOR, SIMLA, 26th July 1897.—DEAR SIR,—Many thanks for the money order for Rs. 96-2-0, which amount has been duly credited to the Diamond Jubilee Fund. It was very good of you to take the trouble of collecting and contributing yourself so generously towards the Fund, and I am obliged for it. You will be glad to know that our silver casket was much admired here, and I have no doubt it will be more so in England. The design was beautiful and chaste. I wish I had made your acquaintance when I was at Bangalore in 1893 with the Ganja Commission ; but am not sure whether you were there at the time. Colonel Henderson was the Resident who put us up. I hope, however, that some day we may meet. If you care to run up to Simla during your holidays, we shall be very pleased to put you up ; and if at any time I may be of any use to you in our part of the world, I hope you will not hesitate to let me know. With Christian regards. Yours truly, HARNAM SINGH.”

In a movement like this, the constitutional idea of a joint address, conceived and carried out by

both Catholic and Protestant Indians was, indeed, praiseworthy.

(XLVII). *Plague in India and Water Famine in England.*—It seemed strange that, about the time (1898) Plague was making its havoc in Mysore, there should have been a water famine in England. Colonel Clarke, in his letter dated Meriden, Bath, 6th October, 1898, wrote :—

“DEAR THUMBOO CHETTY.—We in England are suffering from something like a water famine, no rain of any considerable amount having fallen since the spring. Happily, our crops are reaped and harvested, and they are not endangered, but the cattle have no pasture, and, in many places, little or no water. Such a state of things has never been known, and if this drought is prolonged, the consequence will be serious. Mrs. Clarke joins me in best wishes to yourself and your family. I am, yours very sincerely, TREDWAY G. CLARKE.”

(XLVIII.) *In regard to Famines and Pestilences,* Mr. Thumboo Chetty's views are thus expressed :—

“I have already indicated, in connection with Rev. Mr. Slater's lecture on famine what measures are necessary to avert famine and mitigate its severity. It is quite possible, with Government relief and public and private charity, to combat a famine. But pestilences, and more particularly the dreadful scourge the Plague, could not be wholly prevented or abated by any amount of expense. I am fortified in this opinion by the experience I gained while acting as Dewan in 1898, when no portion of my work entailed more anxious thought and difficulty than that connected with Plague Administration. The repressive measures of Government, enforced at the commencement of the Plague

have everywhere proved unsuccessful and most repugnant to the feelings and prejudices of the people, producing great panic and frightful mortality. The mysterious and sudden appearance of plague now and then, its abatement at times, its re-appearance unexpectedly in different places and localities, and the appalling and sudden deaths that ensued have baffled all medical skill and the best efforts of Government, who were obliged to somewhat modify their original policy, which was ineffectual, if not faulty, and to instruct the Plague Officers to act with extreme discretion and caution, enlisting, in the first instance, the co-operation and sympathetic action of the people themselves, and to effect segregation, evacuation and other beneficial measures without the least compulsion and annoyance, and without creating disturbance, or unnecessarily alarming the patients or those connected with them. In the matter of segregation, the real difficulty was when the breadwinner in a family had to be removed to camp or hospital, and when the other members, unable or unaccustomed to work, had to starve and be helped. As regards evacuation, the reluctance was due to the apprehension that a deserted house was likely to be looted, and there was a risk of depredation or stealthy removal of valuables and, not unfrequently, of hidden treasure owing to the absence of proper watch and surveillance by the Police, who, in some cases, were detected of having connived at, or colluded with, those who were concerned in the theft or misappropriation of properties secured or concealed under the ground in evacuated houses. The enforcement of sanitation in villages, the preservation of cleanliness and the improvement of ventilation in poor habitations, must be carried out by Government gradually helping poor people in this direction with sufficient funds, either as loans repayable by easy instalments without interest, or as free contributions. In dense cities and towns, over-

crowding and accumulation of filth and insanitation must be prevented, and improvements effected more liberally than at present. Each Municipality must be able, with Government guarantee of interest, to raise loans for purpose of sanitation and a well considered and complete scheme of water works, drainage and necessary improvements worked out gradually. This is the only means of preventing and abating, as much as possible, epidemics, including plague, which tend to decimate the population. Half and-half measures of Government in the matter of sanitation are useless. Everything must be slowly and sufficiently progressive on a settled plan and in keeping with the growth and requirements of the population. The action of Government or of Municipal or Local bodies should not be by fits and starts only when an emergency presents itself, or on the sudden occurrence of a famine, plague or pestilence. The Mysore Village Sanitation Regulation, I of 1898, should be more systematically and effectively worked with a liberal provision of funds."

(XLIX.) *Sir Richard Meade, K.C.S.I.*—In October 1898, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was grieved to learn of the demise of this officer, who was held in high estimation while Chief Commissioner of Mysore in the seventies. His life, which was published soon afterwards, was interesting. It was during his administration that the Native officers of the Mysore Commission were, for the first time, invited to the social gatherings and entertainments given at the Residency in 1876 ; and, in return, the Native officers gave their first entertainment in the Public Offices to Sir Richard Meade on the eve of his departure to Hyderabad, a movement started

by the late Mr. Gopauliah, Head Sheristadar, with the co-operation of Mr. Thumboo Chetty, the late Dewan Sir P. N. Krishna Murti, the late Mr. S. Hemaji Rao and others, and which prepared the ground for the future reciprocity of social intercourse between Europeans and Indians.

(L.) '*The Citizen of India*' by Sir William Lee-Warner is an admirable work, regarding which Mr. Cook, the Principal of the Central College, Bangalore, wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, on 15th February 1898, as under:—

"I had a copy of '*The Citizen of India*' sent to me by the publishers yesterday; and, so far as I have been able to judge by a rapid glance through it, think it a delightful book and one calculated to be of much service to future generations, by a simple and lucid exposition of their material and political surroundings I think it ought to be in the hands of every pupil in every one of our High Schools You might read it yourself and see whether you agree with me."

The work was introduced as a text book in the Mysore schools, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty referred to it in terms of praise in his address on the Madras Christian College Day in December 1901.

(LI.) *The Marriage of His Highness Sri Krishna-rajendra Wadiar Bahadur*, the present Maharajah of Mysore, was celebrated on 4th June 1900. The alliance was newly formed with a Princess of a Northern Rajput family. As Mr. Thumboo Chetty was, by illness, unavoidably prevented from attending the festivities, in compliance with the gracious

invitation of H. H. the Maharani-Regent, C.I., he offered his congratulations by wire as follows :—

“ Being unable, to my great regret, to pay my homage in person, I respectfully beg to tender my heartfelt congratulations on this most auspicious occasion. It is my fervent prayer that Heaven may crown the sacred marriage bond with augmented blessings, vouchsafe to our beloved Maharajah a most prosperous happy reign and grant to His Highness and His Royal Consort sound health, long life and unceasing happiness.”

Though absent on this occasion, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had the good fortune of witnessing the two previous marriage ceremonies of Their Highnesses the First and Second Princesses in 1896 and 1897, which he considered were very imposing. He wrote :—

“ Apart from the magnificence and variety of preparations on such grand occasions and the various spectacles exhibited, Her Highness the Maharani-Regent, C.I., showed so accurate a discernment in the ordering, placing and welcoming the guests and in distinguishing what degree of civility and attention should be shown according to every guest's rank and position, that it was really marvellous that even trifles did not escape Her Highness' observation and commands. Her liberality in the distribution of money presents to Brahmins and others was unbounded, and the presentation of shawls to all guests was equally marked with generosity and judicious discretion. The marriage celebrations were a perfect success, admired by all.”

(LII.) *Social Customs among Native Christians.—Establishment of Catholic Hierarchy in India and the*

Madras Refuge Church.—In 1882, when Mr. Thumboo Chetty's eldest son, Royaloo, was married, Colonel T. G. Clarke wrote:—

“SHIMOGA, 14th July 1882.—DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—I see from your signature to an official docket that you have returned to Bangalore, and I cannot refrain from the pleasure of offering you, though late in the day, my congratulations on so interesting an event as the marriage of your son. I know, from what you have told me, that the matter of finding a suitable wife for your son was one that exercised your mind a good deal at one time, owing to the peculiar circumstances in which your family is placed. I hope, however, that this difficulty has been solved with entire satisfaction to yourself as well as to the others concerned. With my well wishes and regards, believe me, yours very sincerely, TREDWAY G. CLARKE.

Among Catholic Christians in Southern India, owing to the observance of caste and Hindu social customs, there is always a great difficulty in contracting marriage alliances. One has to marry in his own caste, and both the contracting parties must be of the same faith. There are Brahmin, Kshetriya, Vysea and Sudra sub-divisions even among Catholics, and the fewer the number of Catholics in each sect or sub-division, the greater is the difficulty of procuring a suitable bride or bridegroom. The evils of caste are, no doubt, pernicious, and stand in the way of progress; but it will take a long time for the caste Catholic community in Southern India to shake off their deep-rooted prejudices in favour of such distinctions and

customs and to intermingle freely with others. Royaloo Chetty's marriage, like all other marriages in this family, was solemnized in the Madras Refuge Church. There is one peculiarity about this church, which here deserves notice. The Hindu Catholic congregation in Madras wanted a separate place of worship for themselves, and this church was erected in 1845 and set apart chiefly for their use under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Saint Thome or Mylapore Bishopric, a diocese which belongs to the 'Padraodo,' a term which is well understood by Catholics. Under the Concordats entered into between Rome and Portugal, two Portuguese Bishops, one at Saint Thome and the other at Cochin, Suffragan to the Archbishop of Goa, were continued, subject to the right of selection vested in the Sovereign of Portugal. It was under the auspices of the Bishop of Saint Thome the Refuge Church was founded. The establishment of the Indian Catholic Hierarchy, in January 1887, did not interfere with the Refuge Church, it remaining, as heretofore, under the Saint Thome Bishopric. It may here be noted that the Madras Catholic Union wanted in 1890 to memorialise the British Government not to recognise the right of Portugal referred to above; but Mr. Thumboo Chetty thought that, in an ecclesiastical matter like this, it was advisable to address His Holiness instead of the British Government. The Union, however, decided otherwise in their communication, dated 28th October 1890, and submitted

a memorial to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State. The result of the movement of the Union has apparently not been favourable. The Hierarchy aforementioned was proclaimed in Bangalore by the Delegate of His Holiness Pope •Leo XIII. His Excellency Monsignor Agliardi and all the high dignitaries of the Catholic Churches in India were assembled in the Catholic Cathedral at Bangalore during the Proclamation, and, before leaving Bangalore, they had an audience at the Palace with His Highness the Maharajah, the late Chamara-jendra Wadiar Bahadur, G.C.S.I. Monsignor Agliardi, the first Delegate, was succeeded by Monsignor Ajuti, through whom the Pope sent a souvenir to the Maharajah, as may be seen from the following message, dated Calcutta, 7th April 1891, wired by His Excellency the Papal Delegate to Mr. Thumboo Chetty :—

“I shall stay in Bangalore only three or four days, and am desirous to see the Maharajah to offer him a present from His Holiness Leo XIII. Kindly make arrangements.”

Monsignor Ajuti's successor is the present Delegate, His Excellency Monsignor Zaleski, who visited Bangalore in January 1896, and had also an interview with the Maharajah. To him the Indian Catholics owe a deep debt of gratitude for the establishment and maintenance of a large Native Seminary in Kandy (Ceylon) for training up Native students for the priesthood. In course of time, it is

the young men that pass out of this seminary that would, after undergoing a course of theological tuition in Rome, become eligible for the exalted position of Indian Prelates or Bishops.

(LIII.) *Indian Bishops*.—Mr. Thumboo Chetty's long cherished desire was to see some Bishops of Indian nationality consecrated and put in charge of some of those dioceses in which there were a large number of Indian Catholics, or, properly speaking, Christian Hindus. Within three years after the establishment of the Hierarchy, the Right Rev. Dr. T. M. Makil, a native of the Malabar District, was appointed Bishop, and, during His Lordship's short stay at Madras, Mr. Thumboo Chetty deputed his sons and relations to present the following address, hailing the appointment of an Indian Bishop with immense delight :—

“ To The Right Rev. Dr. T. M. MAKIL, D.D., Bishop of Fralles and Vicar Apostolic of Changanachery.—MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—We, the Native Caste Catholics of the Metropolis of Southern India, most respectfully beg to approach Your Lordship this day to give expression to our heartfelt feelings, and to convey our warm congratulations upon Your Lordship's recent elevation to the Episcopate. Though it might seem that it was only chance that brought Your Lordship in our midst, still we deem it providential, since we have been allowed the rare privilege and the unprecedented opportunity of greeting one of the sons of our soil raised to the dignity occupied by Your Lordship. It was only three years ago that the presiding luminary of the Church, Pope Leo XIII, with characteristic foresight, reviewed the history of Christendom in India and declared the

existence of a necessity for an Indian Hierarchy composed of indigenous clergy and governed by their own prelates. It was his anxious solicitude for the future preservation of the Church in India that prompted His Holiness to found a national seminary at Kandy, and to issue an Encyclical addressed to the Bishops of India, exhorting them to establish seminaries everywhere for the purpose of increasing the number of vocations to the priesthood. This Encyclical was a touching appeal of His Holiness made to all the Bishops of India on behalf of the Indians. It speaks for itself and needs no comment. The wishes of the illustrious Pontiff, we rejoice to see, are beginning to be realized, and need we add that it is the person of Your Lordship that we seem to catch a glimpse of the realization of hopes so ardently entertained by His Holiness. We therefore welcome Your Lordship here this day with feelings of inexpressible gladness, and we most heartily congratulate Your Lordship on your elevation to the Episcopal dignity. We are gladdened all the more to learn that, along with Your Lordship, there are two others who were similarly raised to the Episcopate, and we beg of Your Lordship to convey to them our kindly feelings. We have just this day despatched a letter to His Holiness, thanking him for the deep interest he has evinced in our behalf and expressing our tokens of sincerest gratitude for his having kindly accorded us three Indian Bishops, which event, we considered, as the commencement of a brilliant epoch in the annals of the history of the Church in India. The illness which brought Your Lordship to this place, though a matter for regret, has given us the opportunity of taking the first place among those who have the honour of welcoming Your Lordship. We are proud to have this accidental precedence and exult in it. It is with feelings of the utmost delight that we learn the improvement of Your Lordship's health, for the complete revival of which we offer up our sincere

prayers. In conclusion, wishing you all health and prosperity, we implore the God of Mercy to shower His choicest blessings on Your Lordship, and bless you with many years of useful labour in the extensive field newly opened out to Your Lordship. We beg to remain, May it please Your Lordship, Your Obedient Children in Christ, The Native Caste Catholics of Madras. Madras, 29th November 1896."

The sentiments of His Excellency the present Delegate Apostolic with regard to Native Clergy in India may be gathered from the following letter sent to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, No. 685, dated Kandy, 5th May 1894:—

"MY LORD CHIEF JUSTICE,—Your letter of 3rd April reached me when all my time was taken up by the Provincial Council of Verapoly, hence my delay in answering it. I also have been very sorry that your occupations prevented you from coming to meet me at Madras, for I rejoiced beforehand at the prospect of passing some hours with you. The Native clergy has always been the object of my greatest care from the time of my first stay in India in 1887, and I never since have discontinued my labours for this great work of which Our Holy Father has charged me in a special manner after my return to India. The Catholics of India should, therefore, give me in this matter their full confidence. But at the same time, they may not forget that such a work is not done in one day, especially in a country like India, where the number of Catholics is yet limited, and still more limited the number of families who give their children the education which is necessary in order to choose from amidst them candidates for the holy priesthood. It is not so difficult to find avocations in France, for instance, in a population of 36 millions, who have

received a Catholic education during already 1300 years, or, in Italy, amongst a population of 30 millions, Catholic since 1700 years. But consider, please, the number of those Catholics in India amidst whom real vocations can be found. This is one of the difficulties to be taken into consideration. Another difficulty lies in the want of means. Seminaries cannot be erected without money. The pupils require food, the staff of professors must be maintained, and the buildings must be large enough for affording suitable accommodation to both professors and students. Besides, we should bear in mind that the seminarist, once ordained priest, must be provided with an honest sustenance; it is required to give him the means to live. And, as you know, most of the Missions have no other resources but the alms which they receive from Europe, and these alms are decreasing in proportion as more new Missions are started all over the world. These resources, therefore, are uncertain and precarious. In those parts of India where the Missions are more or less self-supporting, as in Goa and on the Malabar Coast, there the Native clergy exists in sufficient number. In Europe the seminaries are generally poor and would not be able to maintain a sufficient number of students if more wealthy Catholics did not pay the fees for a great many of them. In the seminary where I commenced my ecclesiastical studies, two-thirds of the students were maintained in that way. This pious custom is not as yet practised in India. And this is one of the reasons why the Catholics of India, China and of other Missions in Asia have not yet their Native clergy. On my coming to India I was well aware of these two difficulties; but there is a third one, which I did not expect and which comes from the Native Catholics themselves. All the educated Native Catholics speak much of the necessity of a Native clergy; all express their desire to have this clergy, many even assert their right to it—but none of them is willing to give his son to the seminary.

know families which have done their utmost to prevent their child from this holy vocation, to make him lose it, or to hinder his becoming a priest by getting him to marry. Some do so from want of a true Christian spirit, others are guided by their love of money, for they well know the priesthood is not a lucrative vocation. They prefer their son becoming a clerk in some Government office rather than to have him become a priest. And yet they are the first to complain that there is not a sufficient Native clergy in India. If the Catholics of India wish to have a Native clergy, let them *give their boys*,—if they wish this clergy to have a high and influential position let them *give their best boys*. Neither the Pope nor the Bishops can give to the Native clergy of any country a high and influential position. They themselves must get this position through their learning, their piety and their zeal in helping the Bishops in their Apostolical labours. Accept please the assurance of my profound respect and receive my cordial blessing for you and for your whole family. Yours sincerely, LADISLAS MICHEL, Archbishop of Thebes, Delegate Apostolic."

In another letter, His Excellency notes why Kandy was selected for the Indian Seminary. It runs thus:—

"KANDY, CEYLON, 15th September 1894.—MY LORD CHIEF JUSTICE,—Allow me to present you with the historical medal made by order of our Holy Father the Pope as a memorial of the foundation of the seminary erected by His Holiness in Kandy for the special training of Native Indian Priests. This medal, one of those which the Sovereign Pontiffs used to have coined in memory of the greatest and most important events of their reign, is a new token of the constant care the Holy Father takes of His Indian children and of His special solicitude to provide this country with a Native clergy, able, learned and

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full of zeal for the welfare of Christians and the conversion of heathens. Conformably to the wish of Him, whose representative I am among you, I always consider the question of the Native clergy as one of the greatest and most important of my delegation, and I have given to it all my heart. The choice of Kandy was made principally on account of its delightful climate, equally adapted to the health of Indian youths and European teachers. I have acquired about 220 acres in close proximity to the town and in a most beautiful position. One building will soon be completed, and we are laying the foundations of the main building, which is to be very large (over 500 feet in length) and in the best Gothic style. I hope that, when completed, this seminary will become one of the principal centres of learning in the East, and will educate a worthy and well trained clergy. I know this medal will give you satisfaction and pleasure. Please accept it as a new token of my friendship. I send my most hearty blessing to you and your family, and remain, Yours most faithfully, LADISLAS MICHEL, Archbishop of Thebes, Delegate Apostolic."

Mr. Thumboo Chetty, in one of his notes, says:—

"The gradual extension and consolidation of the Native clergy under Bishops of Indian nationality would be a pillar of strength to the Indian Catholic Hierarchy, as they would labour in a special manner, and, being in touch with their fellow countrymen, better succeed in the conversion of the unconverted. Moreover, they would, by their thorough acquaintance with the languages, tastes and manners of the people, assist materially in softening the difficulties often felt by the European clergy, in dealing smoothly and satisfactorily with social usages and customs that may not interfere with religious observances. I have had experience of this in the Madras Refuge Church."

It may here be mentioned that on one occasion there was a long-standing disagreement in this church which was happily settled by the Right Rev. Dr. H. J. R. D'Silva through Mr. Thumboo Chetty's interference. In an address presented to His Lordship by this church congregation on 1st January 1893, the following acknowledgment was made in para 4.:—

"It is no exaggeration to say that Your Lordship's absence from your diocese during the past two years was very keenly felt by us. That great benefactor of our church, the Honourable Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, to whose kind intercession, coupled with Your Lordship's goodness, we are indebted for the restoration of friendly feelings between the Vicar and the congregation and re-establishment of peace and harmony, deserves no small compliment. The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Refuge can, at no day, be thought of without the association of that worthy gentleman's name. We have further to thank Your Lordship for your kind condescension in agreeing to a modification of the Decree so as to meet our reasonable wants."

(LIV.) *Bishop of Mylapore*.—Writing of the Right Rev Dr. D'Silva and his successors, Mr. Thumboo Chetty says:—

"Dr. D'Silva was a prelate who always did the work of his important diocese with deep seriousness and in a heavenly frame of mind. His Lordship's eminent successors Doctors Barrossa and DeCastro were equally devoted and popular, and evinced truly paternal solicitude for the spiritual welfare of this peculiarly situated caste congregation, which deserves sympathy and encourage-

ment, amidst its weaknesses and trials, bearing in mind that even in the first century of the Christian era, there were various dissensions, which led St. Paul to write in his Epistle to the Corinthians, to the effect, that he was a Jew to a Jew and a Gentile to a Gentile. 'To the weak I became weak that I might gain the weak. I became all things to all men that I might save all.' I Cor. ch. ix, v. 22. It is on this admirable principle the early Jesuit Missionaries acted and wonderfully succeeded in their conversions. Even the history of the celebrated St. Francis Xavier shows how he moved freely and mixed himself unostentatiously with the learned as well as the unlearned, and like St. Paul tried to please all men in all things that they may be saved."

(LV.) *Visit to Goa*.—Mr. Thumboo Chetty was a pilgrim in Goa between 27th December 1890 and 3rd January 1891, and his description of the place is as follows:—

"I witnessed the exposition of the body of one of the most illustrious of Jesuit missionaries, St. Francis Xavier, which is preserved with great care, and has miraculously escaped decomposition for nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ centuries. The fervent devotion and zeal of the immense crowd that thronged the place of exposition were indeed remarkable, Goa, which was once the centre of the riches of India and one of the celebrated marts of the universe with its stately churches and magnificent convents and other buildings, presented somewhat a desolate and fallen appearance at the time of my visit. Through the kind assistance of his Lordship the Bishop of Mylapore, who happened to be at Goa at the time, I and my family were able to inspect almost all the places of interest in Goa, the ancient capital of the Portuguese Settlement in India founded by the illustrious Albuquerque. I had also the pleasure and honour of

a personal interview with His Grace the Archbishop and Primate of the East and His Excellency the Portuguese Viceroy and Governor-General."

On his return from Goa, Mr. Thumboo Chetty sent a letter of thanks to Doctor D'Silva, who was pleased to reply as follows:—

"SAINT THOME, 17th February 1891.—DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—It affords me great pleasure to find that you were quite charmed with all you saw in Goa, especially its grand and magnificent churches. In fact there are no such structures for Church services in any part of India that I know of, and I feel sure the Maharajah will be immensely delighted with the account you will give him My Secretary and myself only regret we had it not in our power to render your stay at Goa during the exposition as pleasant and comfortable as we would wish to have made it. With my kindest wishes and blessing to yourself and family, all of whom, I trust, continue well, Believe me yours sincerely, HENRY, Bishop of Mylapore."

Mr. Thumboo Chetty brought some precious souvenirs from Goa and presented them to his numerous relatives and friends. One of the latter was a staunch Catholic and a leading member of the Mysore Bar, from whom was received the following acknowledgment:—

"25th January 1891.—MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—I am exceedingly obliged to you for the precious souvenirs from Goa. I will prize them for their sanctity and for the thoughtful kindness of the esteemed donor. I am glad you had the pleasure of witnessing the exposition of the Illustrious Apostle of India. With best wishes, and wishing you and family a Happy New Year, Yours sincerely, JOHN A. LAZARO."

(LVI.) *The Madras Native Catholic Association.*—

In 1893-94, there was a prodigious movement in Bangalore, Pondicheiry and Cuddalore in connection with the Encyclical letter of His Holiness Pope Leo XIII of happy memory, dated 24th June 1893, for the establishment of clerical seminaries in India. A telegram was sent to His Holiness, in the name of the Native Catholic Corporation, offering their humble thanksgiving for the golden and glorious Encyclical ; and, at the same time, it was resolved to start a Catholic Native Association and a journal. Mr. Thumboo Chetty obtained the kind advice of His Excellency the Delegate, Monsignor Zaleski, and communicated it to the prime movers. In the result, an Association for Southern India was started with headquarters at Madras and various branches at out-stations, the Bishops and Clergy forming the guiding element with the indefatigable Secretary, Mr. D. Swamikannu Pillai, M.A., LL.B. The Association is progressing slowly and steadily. No branch has as yet been established in Bangalore.

(LVII.) *Indian Succession Act and Native Christians in Mysore.*—In British India the Indian Succession Act X of 1865 applies to Native Christians, while in Mysore the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Bowring, who was aware of the fact that a majority of Native Christians, especially Catholics, preserved caste and clung to their ancient usages and customs appertaining to the marriage ceremonies and the

divisions of property, on the strongre presentation of Dr. Charboneaux, the Vicar Apostolic and Catholic Bishop of Mysore, moved the Government of India for exempting all Native Christians in Mysore from the operation of the provisions of the said Act. This exemption was granted by a notification of the Foreign Department of the Government of India, No. 203, dated 23rd July 1868. Mr. Thumboo Chetty always strenuously fought for this exemption ; and, when the question came up lately for discussion before a meeting at Madras of both Catholic and Protestant Native Christians, under the presidency of the Right Rev. Dr. T. Mayer, he sent the following letter :—

“ BANGALORE, 21st April 1899.—MY LORD,—I have just had the pleasure of receiving Your Lordship's letter of the 20th instant. The proposed meeting of both Protestant and Catholic Native Christians will be a unique gathering, which I had long earnestly wished for. Under the direction of Your Lordship—a distinguished Prelate held in the highest estimation by all classes and creeds in Madras—the proposed meeting will, I doubt not, prove to be a great success, the proceedings being conducted with perfect fairness and moderation, and the representation to the Government being made most respectfully and loyally. I venture to predict that, under the blessings of Providence, this meeting will be the precursor of many more gatherings of the kind, calculated to ensure union and joint action on the part of Hindu Christians of Southern India in all matters which concern their social welfare and advancement. I am sorry I will not be able to attend the meeting, but I may assure Your Lordship that the proposed movement has my hearty co-operation and sympathy. You are

probably aware that in Mysore, Native Christians are exempt from the operation of the Indian Succession Act X of 1865, and I am sure that a proper representation to the Government of India will secure a similar exemption in Southern India, where a majority of Native Christians observe the family usages and customs of the Hindus, with regard to the enjoyment and devolution of property possessed by them, and to whom the European law of succession, as laid down in Act X of 1865, would be wholly inapplicable. It is a well established principle that a mere change of religion does not necessarily involve a change of the usage or custom or of the law of property to which the convert was subject before his conversion, and the following quotation from the judgment of the Privy Council in *Abraham v. Abraham*, IX, M.I.A., pp. 243—245, fully supports my view. 'Their Lordships collect from the evidence that the class known in India as Native Christians, using that term in its wide and extended sense as embracing all Natives converted to Christianity, has subordinate divisions forming again distinct classes, of which some adhere to the Hindu customs and usages as to property; others retain those customs and usages in the modified form; and others again have wholly abandoned those customs and usages and adopted different rules and laws as to their property. The profession of Christianity releases the convert from the trammels of the Hindu Law, but it does not, of necessity, involve any change of the rights or relations of the convert in matters with which Christianity has no concern, such as his rights and interests in and his powers over property. The convert, though not bound as to such matters either by the Hindu Law or by any other positive law, may, by his course of conduct after his conversion, have shown by what law he intended to be governed as to these matters. He may

have done so either by attaching himself to a class which, as to these matters, has adopted and acted upon some particular law, or by having himself observed some family usage or custom, and nothing can surely be more just than that the rights and interests in his property and his powers over it should be governed by the law which he has adopted or the rules which he has observed.' During my 32 years' sojourn in Mysore, I have had various opportunities of knowing that, but for the exemption so justly allowed by the British Government, the application of the English Law of Succession, as contained in Act X of 1865, to Native Christians, would have inflicted great hardship and injustice and placed them under a great grievance. I fail to see any reason or justice in compelling a Christian Hindu to adopt the English Law relating to property, or rights of inheritance or succession, when he wishes to adhere to, or observe, the same usage or law which governed his civil rights before he renounced the Hindu religion. In this respect, the Native Christian wants a fair field of action, according to the liberty of his own conscience, and no favour. When Act XXI of 1850 was passed, there was a great agitation and opposition, and the Hindu Christian community then concluded their petition to the Governor-General in Council in the following terms, which may serve as our guide on this occasion in approaching the Government of India with a prayer for exempting Native Christians generally from the operation of Act X of 1865:—'Your memorialists neither solicit nor expect any special favour to their community. We only desire that your Lordship's principle of non-interference with the religion of Her Majesty's native subjects may be fully carried out in practice. We only desire that in no department of your Government, in no court of justice, in no department of the public service, in no institution

supported or controlled by the State, should the Christian, the Hindu or the Mahomedan have reason to complain or exult that he is hardly or favourably treated merely because of his religion ; and that equal justice may be done to all who are peaceable and loyal. I remain, yours faithfully, T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY. To the Right Rev. Dr. T. MAYER, D.D."

It will be seen from the foregoing letter that Mr. Thumboo Chetty's main contention seems to have been that a mere change of religion did not warrant the enforcement of a new law of succession to property, and the extinguishment or modification of rights in contravention of long established usage or custom having the force of law against the wishes of those concerned so as to produce dissension and discord in families. The sound principle affirmed by their Lordships of the Privy Council in *Abraham v. Abraham* was departed from by the Madras High Court in *Tellis v. Saldanha*, I.L.R., 10 Madras Series, p. 69. The question there was, whether the Hindu rule of survivorship obtained in the families of Native Christians who were living in undivided co-parcenership at the time of the passing of the Succession Act, and who had not since effected a partition. The plaintiff in that case claimed the ancestral property of himself and his deceased brother to the exclusion of the defendant, his deceased brother's widow, on the ground that he and his brother were living in co-parcenership as to their ancestral lands when the Succession Act came into force in 1866, and that on the brother's death

in 1872, he became, by the operation of the Hindu Law rule of survivorship, sole owner of the ancestral property. The Madras High Court, in dismissing the plaintiff's claim, observed as follows :—

“We are of opinion that co-parcenership and the right of survivorship are incidents peculiar to Hindu Law, which law, as far as it affected Native Christians, was repealed by the Succession Act. The Succession Act, however, did not take away any vested rights, and Augustine Tellis had a vested interest on 1st January 1866. That interest continued to vest in him till his death in 1872, when a case of intestacy arose which was governed by the Succession Act and not a case of co-parcenary and survivorship governed by Hindu Law. The right of survivorship presupposes that the rule of Hindu Law is the rule of decision at the date of co-parcener's death, but the effect of the Succession Act was to convert vested co-parcenary rights into individual rights and to subject such rights in cases of intestacy to the rules of succession provided by that Act.”

In the large community of Brahmins converted to Christianity in the South Canara District, it was, in a majority of cases, sought—and successfully too—to prove that though they had changed their ancient religion, still they clung to their old usages and customs, and were, in all matters pertaining to property, observing the same law as their Hindu neighbours. The male members of the Roman Catholic community felt it to their personal advantage to establish that they had not abandoned their old Hindu Law of succession when they

became converts to Christianity, inasmuch as that law helped them in keeping out the female members of their family from claiming a share in the family property.

The effect of the Madras High Court's ruling was that it was not open to Hindu converts to Christianity to prove, under the ruling of the Privy Council in Abraham's case, in cases of successions opening after the Succession Act came into force, that they were still governed by the Hindu Law. But in a case reported in the January number of the I.L.R., Bombay Series (*Francis Ghosal v. Gabri Ghosal*), Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice, and Mr. Justice Beaman of the Bombay High Court disapprove of the ruling of the Madras High Court in *Tellis v. Saldanha* and hold that coparcenership can be a part of the law governing the rights of a Christian family converted from the Hindu religion as laid down in Abraham's case, and that the Indian Succession Act does not affect rights of co-parcenership as between those to whom it applies. Their Lordships remark that the purpose of the Succession Act was to amend and define the rules of law applicable to intestate and testamentary succession. In other words, the Act deals with the devolution of rights on intestacy, but it does not purport to enlarge the category of heritable property.

The above decision of the Bombay High Court, which is in accordance with the very just and equitable decision of the Privy Council and in consonance

with the established social usages and immemorial custom of the Catholic Hindus in Southern India, will be hailed with delight by all Indian Catholics.

As a Judge, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had to decide two important cases affecting rights and legal disabilities of Native Christians. Both of them created a good deal of sensation and attracted public attention. The first was a suit brought by a girl, named Hutchi *alias* Helen Gertrude, who, subsequent to her conversion to Christianity, sought a judicial separation from her Hindu husband Appiah. As, notwithstanding the wife's change of faith, the husband had no objection to her living with him and under his protection, and to the restitution and continuance of conjugal rights, the suit was dismissed by Mr. Thumboo Chetty. This decision was upheld in appeal and second appeal. There was no law in Mysore then similar to Act XXI of 1866 (an Act to legalize, under certain circumstances, the dissolution of marriages of Native converts to Christianity) which was extended on Mr. Thumboo Chetty's recommendation. In this connection he also urged the equitableness of applying to Mysore (as has been done in British India) the provisions of Act XXI of 1850 in order that all may enjoy alike the equal and important protection of the law, as it was opposed to all principles of justice and sound policy to deny to the subjects of a Native State the liberty of conscience and rights of inheritance which were

allowed in British territory to the same class of subjects. The question was first mooted just before the Rendition; but the Government of India left it to be dealt with by His Highness the Maharajah when he came to power. While Mr. Thumboo Chetty was Chief Judge the same question cropped up in the case of *Dassappa v. Chikkamma*, reported in 17, Mysore Law Reports, p. 324, heard before the Full Bench, composed of Mr. Thumboo Chetty, C.J., and Messrs. A. Ramachendra Iyer and Kristna Murti, JJ. The issue raised was whether a Hindu father, who renounced the Hindu religion and embraced Christianity, was entitled to the custody and guardianship of his children as against the mother. This, the Chief Judge answered in the affirmative and the other Judges in the negative, and the decision was in accordance with the opinion of the majority of the Court. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, however, had the satisfaction of being fortified in his view of the case by that eminent jurist and learned author of the excellent treatise on Hindu Law and Usage, *vide* section 215 *et seq*, pp. 271 to 275, last edition. Recently there was an interpellation in Parliament, and the answer of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India was, that the Mysore Government were considering the desirability of legislating on the subject to the extent of allowing persons who have changed their religion rights at least to property, etc., under certain limitations. Mr. Mayne, in his work, points

out clearly that, even if Act XXI of 1850 is not in force in Mysore, a party may appeal to the rules of justice, equity and good conscience, which is the rule of procedure laid down in section 11 of the Chief Court Regulation, and that a mere change of religion would not deprive a father of the custody of his children, unless he is proved to be guilty of acts of an unlawful and immoral or inequitable character. The sooner the matter is set right by proper legislation the better. Mr. Mayne's letter to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, which relates to this case and some other interesting matters, is given below *in extenso* :—

“GOODREST, READING, BERKSHIRE, April 29th, 1901.—
MY DEAR THUMBOO CHETTY,—It may, perhaps, interest you to see the way I have dealt with the Christian Convert case in the forthcoming edition of my book. I think your judgment was quite right and the opposing judgment viciously wrong. How terribly unfortunate poor India is with two famines following so rapidly after each other, and the plague thrown in between. I am glad to see that Mysore is free from the plague, and it does not appear to be within the famine range. It is unlucky, too, that this calamity to India happens just when every private purse is being emptied to alleviate the sufferings arising from our own war. It is, for the first time in our history, a people's war, in which the whole nation and the colonies are almost forcing their men and money upon the Government. India has behaved splendidly. I wonder what the French and Russians, who say that she is only watching for a chance to revolt, will say now. I hear nothing more of your son coming over to England. I suppose all these

calamities have something to do with it. Ever your very sincere friend, JOHN D. MAYNE."

(LVIII). *The Mysore Civil Service Examination*:—
In 1891, a difficulty was felt in filling suitably the higher appointments of the Executive and Judicial Service, by selection from among the lower ranks. Sir Sheshadri Iyer proposed to include or classify under a special Higher Service, to be called the 'Mysore Civil Service,' on the analogy of the Statutory Civil Service in India, the following appointments :—

- (1) Assistant Commissioners, including certain Survey Assistants and Police Assistant Superintendents,
- (2) Sub-Judges,
- (3) Sub-Divisional Officers,
- (4) Town Magistrates,
- (5) Deputy Commissioners,
- (6) District Judges and
- (7) Under and Chief Secretaries.

All future admissions into this higher service was to be only in one of two ways, namely, (*1st*) by means of a competitive examination of nominated candidates, and (*2ndly*) by special selection made by His Highness the Maharajah. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, while expressing his concurrence with the main principles of the scheme proposed, observed that the attache system introduced by Sir Richard Meade, if continued with careful selection, would have obviated the difficulty now felt, and that its

discontinuance had caused the present embarrassment. He thought that it was hard to require those in Mysore, who had already passed the University tests of high proficiency and obtained degrees in Arts and Law, to pass through another ordeal, and that the quackery of competition was a measure of doubtful policy, calculated to produce some alarm and discontentment to the Mysoreans, who could not trust to chances of passing the competitive examination, the success in which would, to some extent, be a matter of accident. He, however, hoped that the prerogative, which His Highness had retained in his hands, of special selection would ensure the claims of local men being favourably considered. The new scheme has worked well, and the tone of the higher service has been considerably raised and improved by competent men being appointed and trained so as to remove the difficulty felt in 1891. In this connection what follows will be perused with interest.

(LIX). '*Mysore for Mysoreans*' (writes Mr. Thumboo Chetty in his scrap book) is a natural, nay plausible, cry, raised with the best of motives. But it must, at the same time, be remembered that the so-called Mysoreans, the real natives of the soil, have not yet come to the front and are still in the back-ground. The aborigines are mere agriculturists or traders, and the educated among them are few and far between. Those who, about the time of the fall of Seringapatam, were promi-

nent in official or non-official positions, including
 Dewan Purniah, migrated to Mysore from Coimba-
 tore and other places in the Madras Presidency and,
 after some stay here, acquired a sort of domicile,
 mixed themselves with the real Mysoreans by
 contracting alliances, etc., and assumed the designa-
 tion of Mysoreans. The Madrassesees, too, have been
 doing the same. Many of the Brahmins and Mus-
 salmans now in Mysore are not *real* Mysoreans,
 but outsiders whom circumstances compelled to
 come to, and settle in, Mysore. While such is the
 case, there was no just reason to find fault with the
 importation at times from Madras, Coorg and other
 places into Mysore of men of culture and learning
 to aid the Mysore administration, as the introduc-
 tion of superior intellectual life exercised a most
 powerful and salutary influence on the Mysoreans
 in general, and gave a healthy tone to the service.
 The Madrassesees, engrafted as it were on Mysoreans,
 with the training and experience they had obtained
 under a thorough British Administration, may be
 regarded as the 'light' and 'salt' of the Mysore
 Service, and the effect produced thereby was never
 more splendid than in the *regime* subsequent to
 the Rendition and prior to the termination of the
 Regency. There was not in Mysore, in 1867, before
 my appointment as Judicial Commissioner's Head
 Sheristadar, any who had passed the Judicial Tests,
 and this was one reason why I was selected to the
 exclusion of the Mysoreans ; but now there is, in

this State, an *esprit de corps* of Graduates and Masters in Arts, Science and Law, who are certainly entitled to preferential consideration in the matter of appointments. But as salt savours every thing, the infusion occasionally of foreign element and talent is, for obvious reasons, essential to give both moral and intellectual strength and efficiency to the administration and to raise it to a transcendent pitch. There is another point of view in which the principle of exclusion in Mysore of outsiders may be shown to be unsound and unjustifiable. The last Census Report shows that, during the decade preceding the enumeration of 1901, there were 281,586 immigrants and 132,342 emigrants. Of the former, 151,504, or nearly 54 per cent., were actual workers for wages, whose employment, the Census Commissioner admits, was beneficial to the Province, leaving 130,082 immigrants as against whom there were 132,342 emigrants, almost the same number who went out of Mysore to earn their livelihood in Madras and other places in British India. The advantages accruing from immigration and emigration being thus reciprocal, it is certainly not a matter for discontentment. Supposing the position is reversed, and there is a disposition to exclude Mysoreans from Madras and other Presidencies, and to compel them to seek employment in their own birthplace, the result will certainly not be to their advantage. Such an exclusion of strangers is not likely to take place

under any civilized administration, which, in public interest, must tolerate voluntary immigration as well as emigration and endeavour to encourage and secure for its service men of the best talent and of first rate abilities without reference to caste, creed or nationality.

(LX). *Chief Commissioners and Residents*.—Mr. Thumboo Chetty's personal opinion of the Mysore Chief Commissioners and British Residents may be gleaned from the following extracts from his scrap book:—

(a) “ *Mr. L. B. Bowring, C.S.I.*, was the first Chief Commissioner to whom Mysore was indebted for all the reforms and improvements, which gradually tended to eliminate what was obstructive to progress and to remove the stigma of a ‘Non-Regulation Province.’ His interesting work, entitled *Eastern Experiences*, will enable the readers to draw a striking contrast between the past and the present. It was in his days the Rendition was decided upon, and upon him devolved the preliminary task of laying the foundation for the future Native administration. The first experiment of putting an Indian in the responsible position of a Collector of a District was tried by him successfully, and the status and salaries of Native officers were considerably improved. Mr. Bowring was a shrewd observer of men and manners, and a strict disciplinarian. The minutest details of the work of the administration passed under his critical review. His tours of inspection were dreaded by even the lowest village official, Patel and Shanbogue, and the poorest ryot had access to him, as he was able to converse freely in the Canarese dialect, the dialect of the country. In short, he was highly respected for his ability and industrious habits, admired for his usefulness and loved for his virtues. The

'Bowring Institute' will continue to be a perpetual monument of his connection with Mysore."

(b) "*Colonel Sir Richard Meade, K.C.S.I.*, succeeded Mr. Bowring. He was a firm, resolute and able administrator. He made his power and influence felt by all the officers subordinate to him. During his tours he closely and carefully noted whatever struck him as bearing on the work of district officers, whose prestige was greatly enhanced. The Survey Settlement work received his special attention. The introduction of the attache system tended, in a measure, to secure some element of aristocracy in the graded ranks of the service. He was the first to invite Native gentlemen to the Residency entertainments. He rewarded merit, discarding racial distinction."

(c) "*Mr. C. B. Saunders, C.B.*, was of an amiable disposition, most anxious to continue the good work of his predecessors, but unfortunately he had to combat with a famine of the worst description, which drained the resources of the State and caused a terrible diminution of the population. The crisis was, however, passed, and all that was necessary to train up the youthful Maharajah and to qualify him for his exalted position was done, so as not to postpone the Rendition. The work of retrenchment, however distasteful, was, in his days, carried out in each department economically without impairing efficiency."

(d) "*The Hon. Mr. R. A. Dalyell*, who officiated as Chief Commissioner for a short time, was an able Madras officer of wide revenue experience. The improvement in the Excise system, which he effected, has resulted in an enormous increase of the Abkari revenue. His views on the revenue subjects dealt with by him were sound and impressive. His stay, though short, was characterised by an earnest desire to preserve commendable impartiality in the

disposal of patronage without reference to caste or creed, which was essential, especially in a Native State like Mysore "

(e) " *Sir James Gordon, K.C.S.I.*, was Chief Commissioner for some time. He was the first British Resident at the time of the Rendition. Unfortunately, he did not continue long as Resident. He was suddenly seized with paralysis and compelled to go Home. Mysore very much regretted his loss, and His Highness the Maharajah also felt it very keenly, as he cherished a reverent and filial affection for one who was his guardian for a considerable time prior to the Rendition. At the Madras Pier, before going on board the steamer and while bidding 'Adieu' to his friends, his parting words were:—'Mysore will for ever remain engraved in my heart.' He was one that made a deep and lasting impression on all by the performance of the onerous duties of Judicial Commissioner, Guardian to the Maharajah, Chief Commissioner and British Resident successively, with scrupulous fidelity, firmness, tact and ability, in the best interests of Mysore and of its first ruler after the termination of the British Administration. The settlement of the Instrument of Transfer was made in consultation with him, and the ruling house of Mysore will always remember him in connection with this precious and carefully drawn up *Magna Charta of Mysore*."

(f) " *Mr. (afterwards Sir) James B. Lyall* was the second British Resident of Mysore. New to the country, new to the work of the State recently handed over to the youthful Maharajah, he found his task, both as the British representative and adviser of the Durbar, somewhat difficult and delicate. But, in a short time, he evinced a desire for inquiry and improvement, and was glad to learn and equally glad to teach and guide. His abilities and statesmanlike

views were of such a superior order that they secured the cordial and growing regard for him from all who came in contact with him."

(g) "*Mr. C. E. R. Girdlestone* was possessed of strong and vigorous feelings. He was a full and perfect example of a British Resident who did his work with a felicity and precision that excited admiration. He was bold in his reproof of failures that came under his notice. He was thoroughly impartial in his treatment of both the European and Native officers, and tried to eradicate racial distinctions, whenever possible, in the interests of public service."

(h) "*General Sir H. N. D. Prendergast, R.E., H.C.*, with a fund of knowledge and military tactics, made a good impression in the political situation he held in an important Native State like Mysore. He was generous and just, and gave proof of habit, industry and good sense that characterized great men."

(i) "*Mr. (afterwards Sir) Dennis Fitzpatrick* was an able lawyer, whose mind, with an intimate knowledge of the various Indian enactments and of the debates connected therewith, was buoyant with thought. He always looked out for facts, and was a capital logician; and, in the performance of his duties, showed admirable vastness of intellect and intensity of purpose. He was really a conscientious and popular Resident."

(j) "*Colonel Sir Oliver St. John*, with a literary distinction, was a plain, firm and popular Resident. He showed a zealous solicitude for the dignity and prestige of his office, and in his advices to the Durbar displayed sympathy, considerateness and determination."

(k) "*Colonel H. Peacock* was simple and unassuming in his manners, with a great deal of kindness in his heart.

During his short term of office, everything went on smoothly and without much ado."

(l) "*Colonel P. D. Henderson, C.S.I.*—Under this talented officer there was no noteworthy deviation of the previous policy of the Residency till the formation of the Regency that ensued the great calamity to the country caused by the sudden and untimely demise of that much lamented and beloved Maharajah Sri Chamarajendra Wadiyar Bahadur, G.C.S.I., on 28th December 1894. That was a terrible catastrophe, and Colonel Henderson, with sorrow, full and strong upon the heart, showed great capacity, tact and foresight in establishing the Regency under Her Highness the Maharani Vanivilas Sannidhanna, C.I., without effecting any perceptible change in essence, form or attributes of the previous administration. The slightly altered constitution, with some enlarged powers conferred on the Council, which owed its inception and support to Colonel Henderson, was intended to give greater stability to the Regency Rule which, on the whole, was a great success, barring a few defects which were unavoidable."

(m) "*Mr. (afterwards Sir) Wm. Lee-Warner* lent much valuable support to the new Regency Council. He was possessed of excellent qualities; was remarkable for bold, original and powerful thinking, calculated to discover truth and detect error; and everyone who had business relations with him was struck with the gaiety and vivacity of his genius. His impartiality and conscientious exactness were conspicuous in the disposal of matters that came up before him. He always evinced a spirit for fair and free discussion, followed by liberal sentiment. His action was prompted by strong feeling and principle, for which he was universally respected."

(n) "*Mr. (afterwards Sir) Mackworth Young* was a popular Resident; his manners were fascinating. In conversation

he always maintained the most perfect good humour; he was of a cautious and religious temper. He was beyond the reach of prejudice, and generally avoided any appearance of heaviness or harshness in deciding or advising on matters placed before him. He was nevertheless acute and strong minded, and extremely solicitous about the young Maharajah's education, training and welfare. During H. E. Lord Elgin's visit, he and Lady Young played the most important part successfully and to the complete satisfaction of all concerned. The Khedda operations were a perfect success and highly pleasing to the Viceregal party."

(o) "*Colonel Sir Donald Robertson, K.C.S.I.*, once Assistant Resident, had the good fortune of being the Resident for more than seven years, during which period there were many memorable events, including the marriage and installation of His Highness the present young Maharajah. The sad palace conflagration took place in his time. Both during the Regency of Her Highness the Maharani, C.I., and soon after the installation, he was the chief adviser of the Durbar. The appointment of a Revenue Commissioner and the introduction of some radical changes in the constitution and *personnel* of the Mysore Council are due to him. There were many improvements tending to the prosperity of the State, and, foremost among them, was the completion of the Cauvery Electric Water Power Scheme, which received his cordial support. The intense distress caused by plague was unfortunately followed by heavy mortality and depression of trade of the country, causing a diminution of its prosperity."

(LXI.) *The Council of Regency and Sir Seshadri Iyer's Executive Administration*.—"In the formation of the Regency Council," writes Mr. Thumboo Chetty,

“there was a singular mixture of ideas and unique combination of striking pieces of machinery of different kinds. The initiative in all matters invariably rested with the Dewan and Councillors in charge of different *portfolios*, and the Dewan's concurrence with the views of the members gave a stamp of authority for issue of orders in the name of Government. In case of difference of opinion between the Dewan and the Councillors, Her Highness the Maharani Regent as Referee assumed a sufficient degree of elevation in finally deciding the question at issue which formed the subject of reference to her. In all matters of gravity and importance, there was previous consultation with the Honourable the British Resident, who possessed, as the representative of the paramount power, the oracular influence which inspired the final action or judgment of the Queen-Regent. The system was doubtless a new and novel one, but was on the whole a successful experiment which merited the approval and appreciation of H. E. the Viceroy, Lord Curzon, who eulogized the wisdom of Her Highness the Maharani Regent's rule in His Excellency's speech delivered at the time of the installation of the present Maharajah. It must, however, be confessed that, under the peculiar constitution of the Regency, the expeditious disposal of work was, at times, hindered owing to the somewhat elastic rule that, if the member in charge of a particular department felt, in any matter that came up before

him, that it was one of doubt, delicacy or importance, he was bound to make a reference to the Dewan. Nevertheless, it must be said to his credit that Sir Sheshadri Iyer's executive administration attained a high tone, and was, on the whole, remarkable for its efficiency and popularity. He showed genius of a high order. His diction and style were equal to his smoothness and facility of expression. He displayed extraordinary character, which commands one's admiration, especially in regard to such schemes as were intended for the improvement of the State revenues, *to wit*, the 'Electric W. P. Scheme,' 'Marikanave Project,' 'Extensions of Cauvery Channels' and other large 'Irrigation Projects,' entailing expenditure of some crores of rupees. His superiority of mind, coupled with his political and statesmanlike abilities, rendered his age a grand era in the history of Mysore."

Here the writer of this biography, with his knowledge of the papers he has had access to, ventures to add what is an undeniable fact, nay an open secret, that throughout Sir Sheshadri Iyer's long period of 18 years' Dewanship, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was his *righthand man*! In verification of this statement is appended below copies of two letters sent to Mr. Thumboo Chetty by Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer when the latter's pay was raised to Rs. 5,000 and when he received the honour of knighthood :—

" MYSORE, 5th October 1888.—MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTIAR,—I am much obliged to you for your congratu-

tions. This mark of recognition by H. H. the Maharajah is specially gratifying to us all in the face of the numerous difficulties and discouragements that assail His Highness' advisers on every side, and the credit of the administrative success, of which His Highness has been graciously pleased to mark his appreciation, is one to a large share of which you, as a prominent member of His Highness' Council, are very justly entitled. With best regards, Yours very sincerely, K. SHESHADRI IYER."

" AGRA, 23rd January 1893.—MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTIAR,—I cannot thank you sufficiently for your very warm and friendly letter of congratulations. Of the many letters of congratulations I have received I value none more highly than the one from yourself, for no one knows my official career in Mysore more thoroughly than you do, and no one's friendly sympathy and co-operation has nerved me more during the arduous work of the past ten years in the midst of disappointments and discouragements more or less undeserved. When at Calcutta I had satisfactory interviews with the Viceroy and Sir Mortimer Durand. I have placed before them two important questions, and, by His Excellency's desire, I submitted to him the accompanying memo. on them. They have promised to do their best, and I believe we have made a good impression and enlisted the sympathy of both the Viceroy and the Foreign Secretary. I have done my best, and this is a satisfaction, whatever might be the final result. When I come to Bangalore on the 2nd, I shall stay there for a few days and then go on a tour to some parts of Hassan and Chittaldroog whose condition has been rather weighing upon me. With kind regards, believe me, always yours very sincerely, K. SHESHADRI IYER."

CHAPTER XIII.

CONSTITUTION OF THE CHIEF COURT.

Subsequent to the passing of Regulation I of 1884, the Chief Court was reconstituted with a plurality of Judges (Mr. C. G. Plumer as Chief Judge, Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty and Mr. A. Ramachendra Iyer as Second and Third Judges), and section 11 of the said Regulation laid down the law in these terms :—

“ Where, in any suit or proceeding, it is necessary for the Chief Court to decide any question regarding succession, inheritance, marriage or caste or any religious usage or institution (a) the Muhammadan Law where the parties are Muhammadans, and the Hindu Law where the parties are Hindus ; or (b) any custom (if such there be) having the force of law and governing the parties or property concerned, shall form the rule of decision, unless such law or custom has, by legislative enactment, been altered or abolished ; (c) in cases where no specific rule exists, the Chief Court shall act according to justice, equity and good conscience.”

Another wholesome rule which was in force in British India, but which was applied to Mysore only in 1883 by section 18 of the Mysore Civil Courts Regulation I of 1883, was that “ No Judge shall try any suit to, or in which he is a party or personally interested, or shall adjudicate upon any proceeding connected with, or arising out of, such



C. A. Mumboo Chetty

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suit." The necessity for this piece of legislation is thus explained by Mr. Thumboo Chetty in one of his notes :—

" It is a notorious fact that Native officers, Judicial and Revenue, in Mysore, including those belonging to the higher classes, were allowed to hold and acquire lands freely, either in their own names or in those of their relatives, friends or dependents, and, as a matter of course, disputes, civil and criminal, among ryots and between landlords and tenants came frequently for adjudication before officers who were either directly or indirectly interested in the result. The provision of the Regulation quoted above to some extent acted as a bar to an officer being a Judge in his own cause. It is, however, a lamentable truth that where the feelings of a person are exclusively for himself, sensibility for others he has none ; and though exceptions undoubtedly exist, one general characteristic of a self-interested person is a deficiency of the sense of moral obligation. Hence the necessity for the rule."

In March 1888 Mr. Plumer, having obtained a year's furlough and proceeded to England, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was appointed to officiate as Chief Judge and Inspector-General of Prisons. This was the first time when a Native officer was placed at the head of the Judicial and Jail Administration in Mysore—both most important charges, always heretofore held by a European officer. The following letters, dated 5th and 15th August 1888, which Mr. Thumboo Chetty received from Mr. Plumer while the latter was in England, contain some interesting information in regard to some of

Mr. Thumboo Chetty's old friends and of the weather, etc., in England:—

"BRIGHTON, August 16th.—DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—Many thanks for your letter of 14th ultimo received this morning. It is always a great pleasure to me to hear from you. My wife arrived safely on the 22nd ultimo. She had a very rough and fatiguing voyage. She was much gratified at the kind attention you and my other native friends showed her in going to the steamer to see her off. She says you have all been so kind to her, for which I offer you my sincere thanks. I took my wife to see Sir James Gordon. He had been very unwell and was looking pulled down. We hope to see him again when we return to London. Brighton is a cheery place. We have already met some Indian friends, Major and Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Lewis Forbes (who lives here) and others. I saw Sir R. A. Dalyell the other day; he is well and prosperous. Mr. Mayne asked my wife and me to pay him a visit in the country. We may do so later. This has been one of the worst summers ever known—cold, wet and cheerless—the hay crop is ruined, and the wheat and rye crops will also be ruined, unless we have some warm weather soon. At present there is no sign of it. I have taken our passages in the P. & O. Steamer *Peshawar*, which leaves Brindisi on the 5th November, and we expect to reach Bangalore about the 21st or 22nd idem. Mr. Melville is coming down to-day to stop with us."

"MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, WEST BRIGHTON, August 15th The weather is most changeable. Yesterday was a lovely bright day—quite hot to-day. It is so cold, I have a fire in my sitting-room, and it is blowing and raining. It has been a terrible summer,—so cold and

gloomy. I had a letter from Mr. Hudson this morning. He wants to see me before I go back. We stay here till the 13th proximo and then go to London."

Enrolment of Retired Officers as Advocates.—One of the retired Civil and District Judges of the Madras Presidency was desirous of being enrolled as an Advocate of the Chief Court, and, as the rules in force did not admit of such enrolment, the Dewan wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty on 18th November 1888:—

"No doubt Mr.——— would be quite an acquisition to the Bar, and His Highness, whom I have consulted, is quite willing to alter the rules so as to admit of his enrolment if the Judges are able so to recommend."

Thereupon, the matter was carefully considered, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty, during his acting incumbency as Chief Judge, conferred a great boon on retired officers by moving Government to modify the rules so as to enable them, instead of ceasing to be useful, and leading a life of dull repose, to practise and thereby earn what may supplement their small pensions. It was, moreover, considered that retired officers of mature experience, who were Judges and Magistrates, would prove to be a more useful and efficient body of legal practitioners than the generality of those who newly join the Bar, and afford valuable aid to the presiding officers of courts in the adjudication of intricate cases. The amended rule, dated 2nd March 1889, accordingly provided for the enrolment as an advocate of "any

retired officer of the Mysore Government or of the territories administered by the Resident in Mysore or the Chief Commissioner of Coorg, who has held, with good reputation, the office of Munsiff, Sub-Judge or District Judge, or who has exercised the powers of a Magistrate of the first class for a period of not less than five years." Many of the retired officers are now practising as Advocates with advantage to themselves and for the public good. The enactment of this provision had won for Mr. Thumboo Chetty the gratitude and esteem of the intelligent body of men for whom useful occupation is available even after retirement.

Confirmation as Chief Judge.—On the retirement of Mr. Plumer, in July 1890, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was appointed Chief Judge and *ex-officio* Inspector-General of Prisons, and, on his confirmation there was a general feeling of approbation from all classes of the people of the Province. One of the leading journals of Bangalore, the *Daily Post*, wrote, on 6th July 1891, as follows :—

"His Highness the Maharajah has been pleased to confirm Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty as Chief Judge of Mysore,—is the first notification that meets our eye in the *Mysore Gazette* of last Saturday's date. We need hardly state that the announcement will be accepted with acclamation by all grades of the Indian and European communities, emphasised by the fact that, a short time back, rumours were current in the station that an outsider was to be brought in to fill this high judicial post. A glance at Mr. Thumboo Chetty's history of services

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rendered to the Mysore Government shows that talent, joined to untiring energy and intense application, must, in the long run, receive its just reward, and to those of our readers who peruse, with advantage to themselves, the records of eminent men who, by their own exertions, have risen to the top of the tree, we can conscientiously recommend our Chief Judge as an example to be diligently copied. In 1855, Mr. Thumboo Chetty, then 19 years of age, obtained his first appointment as 11th clerk in the office of the Quartermaster-General, Madras Army. In 1862 he was made Manager of the Legislative Department, Madras Government Secretariat, after seven years' service, receiving through his own merits a post which ordinarily takes half a lifetime of hard and trustworthy service to obtain. In 1867 he joined the Mysore Commission, and in 1877 he was presented by Mr. (afterwards Sir) J. D. Gordon in full Durbar with a Medal and a Certificate of Honour. He alluded to Mr. Thumboo Chetty's high talent and high character. His measure of talent has since that day been thoroughly recognized, and the high character he then bore is not undiminished at the present day. In 1881, Mr. Thumboo Chetty was appointed *ex-officio* member of His Highness the Maharajah's Council, Judge, Chief Court of Mysore, on the 28th May 1884, and he officiated as Dewan when Mr. Sheshadri Iyer accompanied His Highness through the Northern India tour. He again officiated as Dewan when Mr. Sheshadri Iyer proceeded on a well-earned three months' privilege leave. On the retirement of Mr. Plumer at the end of last year, Mr. Thumboo Chetty officiated as Chief Judge of Mysore, and we have the greatest pleasure in notifying that he now holds the Chief Judgeship permanently. Mr. Thumboo Chetty is, we repeat, a self-made man but those qualifications which cannot be suppressed nor hidden from public view caused him to

be marked out as an official deserving of promotion. The highest promotion to which he could aspire has now been conferred on him, and we heartily congratulate him on his success. In legal circles, the Chief Judge is known to be a thoroughly sound and patient expounder of the law. His acumen, in espying the weak points of an Advocate's argument, is well known, and his patience and great courtesy to all who have occasion to appear before him has won him firm friends and admirers throughout the province. He is a strict disciplinarian as many officials have lately discovered to their chagrin. Punctual in attendance at court, he expects his subordinates to be likewise, otherwise their duty is explained to them in such a manner that an interview of this sort with the Chief Judge is most strenuously avoided. We trust that Mr. Thumboo Chetty will enjoy for many years the high honour just conferred on him, and we hope that ere many months have passed over our heads we will have occasion to congratulate both Mr. Sheshadri Iyer, the Dewan of Mysore, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty, the Chief Judge, the two officials on whom the welfare of the Mysore State chiefly depends, in being further honoured by the receipt of rewards for long, distinguished and honourable services from the Supreme Government of India."

Tours of Inspection.—Mr. Thumboo Chetty's vigilance was such that he made surprise visits to, and frequent inspections of, the Subordinate Courts, which had a salutary effect, ensuring not only punctual attendance of all the judicial officers, but also the prompt transaction of business with fear and care. In this respect, he himself set a noble example, being always the first to come to court and the last to leave it. The printed Inspection

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notes show that no court escaped his scrutiny which was so minute and thorough that it led, at times, to detection of frauds and irregularities which were severely noticed and punished. Whenever any high official, such as Dewan, Chief Judge, or a Councillor proceeded on a tour of inspection, there was everywhere a great demonstration and grand reception, including erection of pandals, triumphal arches, etc., entailing much unnecessary expense to the people. This Mr. Thumboo Chetty, while Chief Judge, interdicted by issuing the following circular to all Deputy Commissioners and District Judges:—

“BANGALORE, CHIEF COURT, 1st December 1893.—DEAR SIR,—The Chief Judge will soon be on a tour of inspection and proposes to visit certain stations in your district specified in the enclosed programme. He desires me to write and inform you of the same, and to request you particularly to instruct the Munsiffs and Amildars, etc., not to make arrangements for the erection of pandals, triumphal arches, or demonstration of any kind at any station. He will be pleased to see things as they are without any ceremonial welcome being accorded to him at any place. Yours faithfully, S. R. SUBBÂROYA IYER, *Registrar*.”

Mysore Law Reports.—During the time Mr. Thumboo Chetty was Chief Judge, he arranged, at the request of some of the bar, for the publication weekly of a digest of important cases and rulings. He also, in communication with Mr. J. D. Mayne, gave a certain amount of recognition to the Mysore Law Reports by sending a complete set to that

gentleman, who has noted some of the decisions of the Mysore Chief Court in his excellent works on *Hindu Law and Usage* and the *Indian Criminal Law* as already mentioned in Chapter XII where this topic is dealt with.

Increase of Pay.—For a Chief Judge there were two scales of pay sanctioned by the Government of India—Rs. 2,500 if the office was held by a European, and Rs. 2,000 if by an Indian. This racial distinction was dispensed with in the case of Mr. Thumboo Chetty, who was graciously permitted by His Highness the Maharajah to draw pay at the higher rate from 1st January 1894, on which occasion Mr. (afterwards Sir) P. N. Krishnamurthi offered his congratulations and wrote :—

“ MY DEAR SIR,—It was only yesterday that I heard from the Registrar that you had got an increase of five hundred rupees. Allow me to congratulate you most heartily and sincerely upon this additional mark of royal favour. I am delighted that this special recognition of your distinguished services has been shown. May God grant that you may long enjoy this honour, and that, ere long, the wishes of your well-wishers may be realised and yourself elevated to the highest position in the service of this country. Yours very sincerely, P. N. KRISHNAMURTHI, 28th January 1894.”

Retirement from British Service.—For Council work Mr. Thumboo Chetty was, in 1890, granted a special allowance of Rs. 250 per mensem, which he drew in addition to the pay of the Chief Judge.

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Mr. Thumboo Chetty's status in Mysore was that of an officer in the British Service transferred to a Native State, and after completing 30 years' eligible service he obtained a British pension for which contribution was paid, and continued in the service of the Mysore State as Chief Judge and Councillor. In April 1894, he cherished a desire to retire from the Mysore Service, and, in the course of a conversation he had with Sir Sheshadri Iyer, the latter was unable to decide the matter without reference to His Highness the Maharajah, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty was asked not to make up his mind till the pleasure of His Highness was known. On the 9th April 1894, Sir Sheshadri Iyer wrote as follows :—

"MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTIAR,—I had more than one conversation with His Highness regarding your further retention. His Highness is willing to do anything you wish or find convenient, and personally he would like your continuing longer. I did not try to fix a *definite* further term, as I would like to leave that question free for the present till you have made up your own decision in the matter. Yours very sincerely, K. SHESHADRI IYER."

To the above Mr. Thumboo Chetty replied on 10th April 1894 as follows :—

"MY DEAR SIR,—I thank you and, through you, His Highness the Maharajah from the bottom of my heart for your letter of the 9th instant. In the face of His Highness' wish, which I regard as a sovereign command, I have decided to continue to render my humble services so long as my health and strength will permit of my doing so. I take it for granted that the furlough on half pay already

pecially sanctioned may be availed of by me when I retire. Yours sincerely, T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY.

Appointment as Full-time Councillor.—During the Regency, owing to the additional work thrown on each Councillor under the altered system of work introduced by the Government of India, there was an idea of affording some relief to Mr. Thumboo Chetty. On 7th July 1895 Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty :—

“In the matter of your continuing as Chief Judge, I will be guided entirely by your wishes. But if you wish to be Chief Judge as well, I would propose relieving you of some Council work . . .”

Mr. Thumboo Chetty's reply of same date was as follows :—

“I feel complimented by your kind note of this day, in which you say : ‘In the matter of your continuing as Chief Judge, I will be guided entirely by your wishes.’ But I assure you that I have no particular wish one way or the other, and that whatever is decided in the interests of the State will be quite agreeable to me.”

No better reply could have been expected from an officer of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's stamp. On the 4th November 1895, he was relieved of the Chief Judgeship by Mr. Justice Best and continued to serve as a full-time Councillor receiving the same pay and allowance, Rs. 2,750, as before. Those who were not aware of the correspondence quoted above thought at the time, what was not a fact, *viz.*,

that Mr. Thumboo Chetty deliberately chose to descend from the Bench and to become a full-time Councillor, thereby losing his rank as Chief Judge next to the Dewan, whereas this question of precedence was, after some discussion, decided in his favour, and at all Palace Durbars the Dewan for the time being, the three sons-in-law of Her Highness the Maharani (late Regent) and Mr. Thumboo Chetty, who formed a group of five entitled to the foremost place near the throne, were garlanded simultaneously and shown special mark of respect in the presentation of attar and pan.

Last Sitting in the Chief Court.—Address and Entertainment by the Bar.—On the day Mr. Thumboo Chetty sat in the Chief Court for the last time the Bar was overcrowded and the Court was thronged with people who were anxious to pay their final respects to the retiring Chief Judge. The Dewan wrote as follows :—

“29th October 1895.—MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTIAR,—I am very glad indeed that the local Bar propose to take the opportunity of your last sitting in court to-morrow to express their sentiments and afterwards to have a photo of yours taken. I think you should accept the compliment, which is, in every way, most appropriate and the occasion is very fitting, as to-morrow would be the last day on which you will sit on the Bench, which you have so long adorned with such conspicuous success. Though your judicial career is to come to a close so soon, that you may be spared for many years to serve the State and our Sovereign in still higher positions and with ever

creasing success, is the earnest prayer of ever yours very sincerely, K. SHESHADRI IYER."

An account of what took place in court at the last sitting will appear from the following extract from the *Daily Post* of Wednesday evening, 30th October 1895:—

"MR. THUMBOO CHETTIAR, C.I.E., the Chief Judge of Mysore, had his last sitting in Court this day to dispose of a few important appeals posted for hearing, and, at the close of the business, the members of the Bar, through the Government Advocate, Mr. Ramasawmy Iyer, paid a high compliment to Mr. Thumboo Chettiar for the able and impartial manner in which he had discharged the onerous and responsible duties that devolved on him as Chief Judge. We may here state that Mr. Thumboo Chettiar was connected with the Judicial Department of Mysore for more than a quarter of a century and that during the past five years, he has in addition to his duties of Chief Judge, performed also those of Councillor, Inspector-General of Prisons, President of the Board of Examiners, President of the Mysore Insurance Committee, etc. In the discharge of his multifarious and responsible duties, he has always displayed conspicuous ability. He was a most popular and conscientious Judge. It is hoped now that he is relieved of the Court work, he will, by devoting his whole time to Council work, be able to do much good to Mysore and its people. To perpetuate the memory of the Chief Judge and his long connection with the Judicial Department, arrangements are being made to have his photo taken in a group of all the Judges and members of the Bar in Bangalore. Mr. Ramaswamy Iyer spoke as follows:—' May it please your Honour,—Being given to understand that this would be the last day of your sitting

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on the Bench, on behalf of the members of the Bar, I beg leave to express the sentiments entertained by us regarding your connection with the direct administration of justice in the Province for over a quarter of a century. At a time when the judicial service of the territory had not been systematically organised, and there was much uncertainty as to the laws to be applied and the procedure to be adopted, your connection with the country commenced as the Head Sheristadar of the then Judicial Commissioner's Court. There existed then no definite rules or laws regarding the Legal Practitioners, save the practice of the presiding Judge allowing any individual at his discretion to represent a party. Your experience as a judicial officer in the British service enabled you to suggest reforms regarding the constitution of an organised Bar, and your elevation to the Bench as Judicial Assistant Commissioner afforded you an opportunity to give strength and status to the then infant Bar. When the judicial was separated from the executive in the year 1879, you were appointed the first Native District and Sessions Judge, in which capacity you further encouraged the Bar by your kind and courteous treatment. On the formation of the Chief Court in 1884, the Government was pleased, in recognition of your long and valuable services, to appoint you a Judge of the Chief Court, and in 1890 as Chief Judge. Ever since, the Bar has been receiving a uniformly kind treatment at your hands. The several rules touching the Legal Practitioners framed from time to time by the Chief Court has been actuated by the sincere desire of improving the prestige of the Bar. Your career as a Judge has always been characterized by uprightness and integrity. We have much pleasure to state that the relation between the Bench and the Bar was always cordial, and that you, as Chief Judge, ably assisted by your colleagues, Messrs. Ramachendra Iyer and Krishnamurthi, maintained, and supported and strengthened our rights and

privileges, and we but feelingly express our appreciation and that of the people of your intimate knowledge of the customs and manners of the country and local laws and usages. Our benevolent and beloved late Maharajah of Mysore was pleased, in recognition of your meritorious services, to confer on you the title of Raja Dharma Pravina, and you had also had the honour of the high appreciation of your services by the Queen-Empress, who was graciously pleased to confer on you the title of the Companion of the Indian Empire. Now that your immediate connection with the Chief Court is about to close, we, in conclusion, heartily thank you for your uniform kindness and courtesy, and hope and trust the Almighty God will spare you to give the benefit of your renewed experience to the public in the discharge of your onerous duties as Councillor to H. H. the Maharani-Regent."

In reply to the address from the Bar, Mr. Thumboo Chettiar made the following interesting speech :—

"GENTLEMEN,—I am at a loss to find words to thank you as heartily as I ought for the good feeling which has been manifested by you towards me, and for the kind and handsome terms in which you have been pleased to refer to my past judicial career. It is always a sad and hard task to say anything on an occasion like this, when one quits a sphere of activity in which he has laboured so long. I must, therefore, freely confess that I am so much impressed with what you have said, that I find it very difficult to give utterance to the earnest expression of what I feel in addressing, for the last time, from this Bench, those with whom I have come in almost daily contact for a number of years, for whom I have always had the greatest regard, from whom I have derived most valuable assistance in

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dispensing justice, and by whom is represented the Mysore Bar, an institution which possesses no small share of the most cultivated, acute and vigorous intellect in the legal profession in Southern India. I do not deserve the flattering encomiums you have been pleased to bestow on me, and I can only attribute all the kind things you have said of me more to the friendly feeling you entertain towards me than to any merits of my own. Nevertheless, permit me, gentlemen, to thank you most heartily for the graceful and complimentary manner in which you have been pleased to address me. It is now more than 28 years since I entered the service of the Mysore State, and I am happy and proud to recall to mind what I regard as a singular coincidence, namely, that my advent to this Province as Head Sheristadar or Registrar of this Court, then called the Judicial Commissioner's Court, dates from 1st February 1867, the very day on which the Mysore Bar was formed or inaugurated, and for which we are under a great and lasting obligation to that eminent, most popular and conscientious Judge, the Honourable Mr. Kindersley, whose name is familiar to all of us. I need scarcely say that the Bar everywhere exercises great influence and largely contributes to the most responsible and distinguished service of the State. In Mysore, as elsewhere, many of the ablest officers who adorn the judicial service and others who worthily fill important situations in the various departments of Government were once members of the legal profession, to which you have the honour to belong. In these days, when sinecures are unknown, and, in every important office in the State, real duties are required to be adequately performed by the exhibition of industry, learning and irreproachable character, the Bar must be had recourse to occasionally, if not frequently, for securing men of fitting personal qualifications for any important office. It is an old but true saying that 'the

sparks of all sciences in the world are taken up in the ashes of the law.' The Legal Profession is one of trust and honour, and the exercise of its functions may lead the advocate into every branch of human knowledge, and the acquisition of general knowledge by a legal practitioner is, therefore, a *sine qua non*. Yours is really a noble and learned profession. The Court in which you are assembled is, to quote the words of an eminent Jurist, 'a temple of justice,' and you, gentlemen, the Advocates at the Bar, and we Judges sitting on the bench are equally ministers in this temple of justice. There is thus a great affinity between us, our common object being the ascertainment of the truth and the attainment of justice. In this search after truth we have had our toils of life. I therefore appreciate the more the sentiments you have given expression to on this occasion, and in whatever degree my public conduct as a Judge may have merited the terms in which you have spoken of it, the mere fact that you have all united in expressing your approbation gives me the greatest possible gratification on the eve of my vacating the office of Chief Judge. It is next to an impossibility to be enabled to please both parties who always appear before a Judge to demand justice, and it is equally difficult for a Judge to be always right in his decision. He must be wrong sometimes, for no Judge can claim to be infallible. But the duty of a Judge is stern, and he has to perform it without fear, favour or affection, but conscientiously and to the best of his ability. Herein lies, as you know, the arduous and difficult nature of his task, and I now feel, after the lapse of nearly 30 years since I first became a Munsiff, and after being attached to this court for more than 11 years, including the past five years of my tenure of office as Chief Judge, as if a heavy burden, entailing the highest responsibility and the most vigilant care, has been removed from my shoulders. If any measure of success, however small,

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has crowned my humble endeavours to discharge faithfully and to the best of my ability, the great trust so graciously confided to me by our late beloved Maharajah,—whose august presence, sometime ago, in this very Court we all recall with a pleasing and grateful remembrance, but whose untimely and sad demise has pierced our hearts as it were with a sword,—I am free to confess that that success has been, in no small measure, due to the valuable assistance I have derived from the Bar and to the ability, earnestness and industry with which I have been assisted by my learned colleagues, two of whom, Messrs. Ramachendra Iyer and Krishnamurthi, have been associated with me for a long time, and one of them, Mr. Ramachendra Iyer, has continued to work with me most assiduously throughout the period of Judgeship in this Court, sharing the dignity attached to the administration of justice by this the highest court of appeal in the Province. I am here bound also to acknowledge with thanks the cordial and ready support which I have invariably received from my friend Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer, the able Dewan, who is at the helm of this large administration, to my proposals for improving the judicial administration, one of which was to raise and increase the scale of salaries of Subordinate Judges and Munsiffs so as to make the Mysore Judicial Service attractive to the members of the bar. In conclusion, gentlemen, permit me to assure you that I shall always cherish the pleasing recollection of my long continued connection with you all, and that I shall never forget your graceful and kindly act of this day which marks the close of that connection. If, after this, I am able, as I hope I shall be, to bring my experience in the judicial department to which I have devoted the best years of my life, to bear on my labours in the new field in which I have been called upon to work for a time, it will afford me the greatest pleasure to endeavour, in my capacity of Councillor

to Her Highness the Maharani Regent, whose many virtues and noble qualities attract towards her all the love and duty of her subjects, to help, as far as possible, in promoting the high interests of the judicial department in Mysore. Once more I beg to thank you all most sincerely and cordially for your good wishes towards me, and affectionately to bid farewell to each and every one of you."

The following is an account of the social entertainment given to Mr. Thumboo Chetty:—

"The *Madras Standard*, Monday Evening, November 4, 1895. *Entertainment to Mr. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E.*—Yesterday afternoon, at the Hindu Club in Sydney Park, Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., Senior Councillor, was entertained at an evening party by the members of the Local Bar and other admirers. The weather at one time threatened to affect the function seriously, but a heavy shower of rain blew over before 5 o'clock and did not trouble again. All Bangalore officialdom, from the Dewan downwards, may be said to have been there, besides the members of the bar in strong force. The form of entertainment was essentially Hindu, and began with the usual *vina* performance and ended with *pan supari* and flowers. Mr. Thumboo Chettiar is justly to be felicitated upon the enthusiastic outburst of feeling that has characterized his withdrawal from the Chief Judgeship of Mysore. This entertainment, which was originally intended to be given on the 9th instant, came off on Saturday last; the reason for alteration of date being that arrangements will be in full swing on the 9th for the reception of the Viceroy, and every one will be full of business. The place chosen to entertain the retiring Chief Judge was the Bangalore Hindu Club, Sydney Road. The hour for commencement was set down at 5 o'clock

in the evening. There was an archway and venetian poles with streamers at the gateway. On the archway the words 'Welcome to Rajah Dharma Pravina Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E.' were displayed. Venetian poles were placed at intervals on either side of the drive. The house was not decorated. The members of the bar mustered strong, and there was a sprinkling of officials. About a dozen native musicians were seated in the centre of the principal hall, singing and playing Native airs and music. Refreshments were provided in a side room and took the form of sweetmeats, fruit, coffee and aerated waters. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, the guest of the evening, drove up at about 6 o'clock and was received by Mr. Ramaswamy Iyer, Acting Government Advocate, at the steps. Mr. Thumboo Chetty walked through the first room and took his seat on a couch in the room where the musicians were. Closely following Mr Thumboo Chetty were the Councillors Messrs. Krishnamurthi and Abdul Rahiman. Mr. Minackshaiya was also present. After sitting for a while, Mr. Thumboo Chetty walked about and talked, mixing freely with his numerous hosts. Rev. Fathers Vissac and Blaize were also present. After partaking of a few refreshments, the guest of the evening took a walk in the garden, glad to get into the cool breeze from the heated atmosphere of the room. On his return, he took his seat. Mr. Master was asked to oblige the audience with some of his performances on the violin, of which he is said to be a 'master' and willingly took the instrument up. He sang five Urdu songs on the violin. Then came the rosewater sprinklers, the burning odoriferous *good butties*, garlands and bouquets. Mr. Ramaswamy Iyer, the Government Advocate, garlanded Mr. Thumboo Chetty, and presented him with a beautiful bouquet; the Councillors present were then garlanded and presented with bouquets, and then the remaining guests. Sandal

water was freely distributed. Messrs. Narain Rao, Gungathara Iyer and Sambasiva Iyer assisted in garlanding, etc. Mr. Thumboo Chetty then arose amid great applause and thanked the originators of the entertainment for the heartiness with which they had received him, and for the good feelings manifested towards him by the members of the bar. He went on to propose 'the continued prosperity of the Mysore bar, and health and long life and happiness to each and every member thereof.' He said that he would always regard the legal profession as one in which its members could afford to act independently in the cause of justice, and by following a straightforward line of conduct, by strict attention to their duties, and by doing their very best for their clients' cause, not merely gain popularity, but the calm, steady and steadfast respect of the people whose interest it is their duty to maintain by a fair, conscientious and powerful advocacy.

Mr. Ramasawmy Iyer, the Government Advocate, then, on behalf of the Bar, responded in a few words, apologizing for the entertainment, which might have been grander. Among other things he thanked Mr. Thumboo Chetty for honouring them with his presence there, and said he was sanguine that even now, as Judicial Councillor to H.H. the Maharani, he would have the interests of the Bar at heart, and give it every encouragement. Just at the close of the proceedings, the General Secretary and Revenue Secretary drove up. Three cheers were given for the guest of the evening, three for Mr. Master, and three more for the members of the Bar. Messrs. Lawrence, Lubeck and Corner were present, and it would be invidious to mention the names only of a few of the Native Advocates present. In fact they were all there. Messrs. M. D. Narainiengar and Rangaiengar came specially down to represent the Mysore Bar."

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Mr. Thumboo Chetty, by his close attention and earnest work, continued and maintained the prestige and independence of the Chief Court remarkably well.

CHAPTER XIV.

Prime Minister or Dewan.—When Sir Sheshadri Iyer was appointed Dewan in 1883, there was an impression that a Christian was ineligible for the Mysore Dewanship, as he could not take part in Palace ceremonials. This notion, which probably originated by political hostility in some quarter and which was carried to an unwarrantable length, was soon dispelled by the appointment of Mr. Thumboo Chetty frequently to act as Dewan. In fact, the religious rituals in the Palace are conducted by Brahmin purohits and priests, and neither the Dewan nor the Councillors are required to take any part in them. The Dewan's connection with the Palace has nothing to do with the internal management of its affairs, for which there are separate and responsible Bukshees acting under the immediate orders and control of the Maharajah or Maharani. Everytime Mr. Thumboo Chetty had to officiate as Dewan, there was not the slightest impediment on the score of creed to his exercising that supervision, control and check over Palace matters—including accounts—which formed not an unimportant part of the duties of the Dewan. In 1887 during the absence of His Highness the

Maharaja on a tour to Northern India, Her Highness the Maharani and the Prince and Princesses were in Mysore, and the Palace Controller having been obliged to take leave suddenly, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had to take charge of the Palace as will be seen from the following telegram :—

“FROM MALABAR HILL. FROM MAHARAJAH. TO MYSORE. TO T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTIAR, ESQ., Officiating Dewan. Please take care of Palace during Mr. Chidambarier's absence, with Veerappaji Urs under your orders.”

From this arrangement is apparent the confidence and superiority of mind displayed by His Highness, and the refutation or condemnation of the utterly unscrupulous character of the insinuation made on the ground of religious disqualification. The war of politics is sometimes not supported by appeal to enlightened arguments, but on surmises and deductions from circumstances which in reality cannot be justified or supported on sound and reasonable principles. The first time Mr. Thumboo Chetty was appointed to act as Dewan and *Ex-officio* President of the Mysore State Council was in 1887. In the recommendation made to the Government of India in October 1887 it was stated that “Mr. Thumboo Chettiar was an officer of great experience, and that His Highness the Maharajah had full confidence in him.” On the several occasions he was appointed to officiate in the responsible position of Prime Minister, there was universal joy and satisfaction, as will be seen

by a perusal of some out of the many letters of congratulations sent to him :—

Colonel Sir Oliver St. John, the British Resident, wrote :—

“ You may depend on my support in the conduct of the onerous duties temporarily devolving on you, which I feel confident you will discharge with the honesty and ability which have been conspicuous throughout your career.”

Colonel Sir Donald Robertson (then Assistant Resident) echoed the sentiments of the Resident.

Colonel T. G. Clarke wrote :—

“ It was a great pleasure to me to hear of your appointment as Dewan *pro tem*. This is a recognition of your services which is only your due, and I do not see how it would have been possible indeed to overlook your claims. Mysore seems to have entered upon a career of prosperity which I trust may continue.”

Mr. (afterwards Sir) P. N. Krishna Murti expressed his sincere and most heartfelt wishes and added :—

“ I have every confidence that the country will prosper under your rule. For myself I may say, with my usual candour with you, that I regard the event with especial approval as one in my position alone can feel what happiness it is to have such a genuine friend at the head of the administration.”

Colonel Robert Cole wrote :—

“ I send you a few lines with my hearty congratulations on acting as Dewan of Mysore. The fact of a Christian acting as Dewan of a Native State speaks volumes for the reputation you have attained.”

There was naturally special rejoicing among the Native Christian community at the appointment of Mr. Thumboo Chetty as Dewan. Extracts from some of the Catholic papers are given below:—

"The Malabar Christian Journal.—We heartily congratulate the Native Christian community on the appointment of Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty to the acting incumbency of His Highness the Mysore Maharajah's Prime Ministership. Though only for a temporary period, during the absence on leave of Mr. K. Sheshadri Iyer who is now recruiting his health in these parts, the appointment conferred upon a Native Christian for the first time in India speaks volumes of praise upon the impartiality of the Mysore Government. Mr. Thumboo Chetty is a well known rigid Catholic, and a member of the Council of the 'Catholic Union of Great Britain', and the Catholic section may well be proud of the confidence reposed in him by His Highness the Maharajah. As a Judge, he has already made himself famous, and now, as a Dewan, we have no doubt that he will conduct honourably to himself, honourably to the general Native Christian community of which he is an honoured member, and honourably to the Government which has so impartially appointed him to the enviable and responsible position of Dewan. The Christian's appointment is therefore, at the present moment, a praiseworthy initiative, and we hope that the example so worthily set forth by the Mysore Maharajah will be followed by the other Native States."

"The Bombay Catholic Examiner.—The announcement of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's appointment to the office of Dewan of Mysore has been received with general satisfaction throughout that important State. Mr. Thumboo Chetty has occupied for several years a seat on the Bench

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of the Mysore Chief Court, and it is a testimony to the efficient and successful manner in which he has discharged his judicial duties that he should have been selected to fill temporarily a post which calls for the highest administrative skill and ability. This is the first occasion on which a Native Catholic has been appointed to the office of the Dewan of a state presided over by a Hindu Prince. We have a personal reason to welcome Mr. Thumboo Chetty's promotion. He was one of the earliest and warmest supporters of the Bombay Catholic Union, with whose objects he is in most hearty sympathy, and he has been recently elected to the Council of the sister Union at Madras. He is also a member of the Council of the Catholic Union of Great Britain. That an earnest and practical Catholic, such as the new Dewan is, should have been appointed to the highest post in the gift of an Indian Prince is an unmistakable sign that religious prejudices are gradually disappearing amongst the rulers of Native States."

On two occasions, while Mr. Thumboo Chetty was acting as Dewan, he had to take part in the Dassara celebrations, when all the marks of honour usually shown to the permanent incumbent of the office were shown to him, and the following extract from one of the local newspapers describes briefly what was done:—

"Dassara at Mysore.—The first day of Dassara was celebrated at Mysore on Tuesday, the 10th instant with great pomp, splendour and eclat. His Highness the Maharajah, Chamarajendra Wadyar Bahadur, G.C.S.I., ascended the ancient and illustrious throne of Salivahana at 7-30 a.m. amidst a shower of flowers and clapping of hands. The troops of H.H. the Maharajah, including the Imperial

Service Corps, paraded and presented arms. The sight was very imposing. There was a large array of elephants newly captured in the Province of Mysore. The crowd of spectators was immense—it was composed of all classes of people from different parts of India. The incessant rain of the past three days having ceased, the morning of first day of Dassara was bright, clear and pleasant. There is general rejoicing in the capital; the whole town has a holiday appearance. The Officiating Dewan, Mr. Thumboo Chetty, was conducted to the Palace with all the honours paid to the permanent Dewan on such occasions. On his arrival at the Palace gate, H.H.'s body guard formed into a special guard-of-honour and presented arms. At the close of the Durbar His Highness the Maharajah was specially pleased to honour Mr. Thumboo Chettyar by throwing garlands of flowers on him personally from the throne. This is the highest mark of public honour shown by Indian Sovereigns on their favoured subjects on such occasions, for which Mr. Thumboo Chetty was cheered and congratulated by the public most enthusiastically."

The Dassara festivities in Mysore are invariably celebrated with great splendour and pomp. The origin of celebrating Dassara in Mysore dates from a very early period, and, in this respect, His Highness connects himself with a long line of Royal ancestors who have ever taken a leading part in making the annual Dassara festivities more and more popular so as to strengthen and cement that kindly and loyal feeling that should subsist between the sovereign and the subjects. In another point of view also the Dassara is growing in importance, as that is the season for the annual

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meeting of the members of the representative assembly, to whom is made known the financial condition and prospects of the country, and who are afforded an opportunity of making such representations as they think proper in advancement of public interests. Lastly, it is during the Das-sara His Highness the Maharajah has the immense pleasure and delight of receiving in his own capital with due honours the British Resident and representative of the paramount power with a happy gathering of European ladies and gentlemen, who add the greatest possible importance to the festivities and afford His Highness personally a vast deal of pleasure.

CHAPTER XV.

Maharajah Chamarajendra Wadeyar Bahadur's Sudden Demise and Regency Council.—When the most melancholy news of the death of His Highness Chamarajendra Wadeyar Bahadur, G.C.S.I., at Calcutta, on 28th December 1894, was received, the British Resident, Colonel P. D. Henderson, C.S.I., accompanied by Mr. Thumboo Chetty, proceeded at once to Mysore. The Resident, in announcing to the people of Mysore the sad intelligence of His Highness the Maharajah's death, spoke as follows :—

“It is with feelings of the profoundest sorrow that I have to communicate formally to those assembled here

that the distressing intelligence has been received by telegram of the sudden and untimely death of His Highness the Maharajah Chamarajendra Wodeyar Bahadur, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, which melancholy event took place at Calcutta yesterday at 7 a.m. This is not a suitable occasion for the expression of the sorrow which these grievous tidings must cause, not only in Mysore, but throughout all India, and even beyond wherever the name of your beloved sovereign is known. I am indeed come among you, accompanied by my friend, Mr. Thumboo Chetty, the Senior Member of Council, who has been left in temporary charge of the administration of the country, to exhort you to exercise for the present all possible self-control in the expression of those very natural emotions called forth by this grievous intelligence and to urge all those present, relatives of His Highness and Civil and Military Officers of the State, to do their best to allay any excitement or apprehension that may possibly be caused by the news of the melancholy event. You are aware that the succession to the Administration has been settled by the 3rd Article of the Instrument of Transfer, and, in due course, the formal recognition of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General to the succession as therein provided will be received, and the necessary arrangements made after the Subaswikaram Ceremony. You must also be aware that, under the same instrument, arrangements for the administration of the country have been definitely laid down, so that all apprehensions of any change in the policy of the Government of India towards Mysore may be at once dismissed as baseless, the deep interest ever shown by the Government of India in the welfare of Mysore and the friendly relations that ever existed with the illustrious Ruler, whose loss we have now occasion

to deplore, are a sufficient guarantee that the best possible arrangements will be made for the administration of the country and for the welfare of all classes of the people."

Great weeping and mourning was shown everywhere. The Public Offices and Courts throughout the Province were closed for eight days. Thirty-two minute guns were fired in Bangalore and Mysore, and all flags kept at half mast till the twelfth day ceremony.

Universal sympathy was expressed for the bereaved Royal family. Simultaneously with the sudden death of the handsome young ruler was produced the thought that the unfortunate Maharani, who was subjected to life-long misery, was barely 29, having been born in 1866. The eldest of her children, Princess Jaya Lakshammanni, born on March 11, 1881, was just 14. The second Princess, Krishnaj Ammani, born on 8th June 1883, was not yet 12. The third, Krishnaraj Wadeyar, to be installed on the throne, born on the 4th June 1884, was 10 years and 7 months old. The fifth, the second Prince named Kanteerava Narasaraj Wadeyar, was a child of six years, and his sister, Chaluvaj Ammanni, was his elder by about a year. The little Prince and Princess, bereft of their loving father, tenderly clung to their unconsolable mother; and but for the solace coming from these pretty little ones, the life of the Maharani would have been indescribably bad.

Proclamation of Succession of the present Maharajah.—Within two days afterwards, the succession of His Highness the present Maharajah was announced under the following notification, issued by Mr. Thumboo Chetty :—

“ *The Mysore Gazette Extraordinary published by authority, Mysore, Sunday, December 30, 1894.*—Notification, Mysore, the 30th December 1894.—The following communication, received from the British Resident in Mysore, is hereby published for general information :—‘ The Government of India are pleased to sanction the succession of His Highness Krishnaraj Wadeyar Bahadur, the eldest son of His Highness the late Maharajah Chamarajendra Wadeyar Bahadur, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. Pending the issue of orders on the form of administration to be finally approved as that which is best suited for the period of minority, the administration of the State will continue, for the immediate future, in the manner in which it is now conducted under the Dewan, Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer, K.C.S.I. The Dewan will ask for and follow the advice of the Resident on all matters of importance, and, so far as is practicable and desirable, he will consult the wishes of Her Highness the Maharani Vanivilas Sannidhana, C.I.—T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY, Chief Judge and ex-officio Senior Member of Council.”

The above notification was followed by a sympathetic letter or *Kharita* of Lord Elgin, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, as follows :—

“ TO HIS HIGHNESS KRISHNARAJ WADEYAR BAHADUR OF MYSORE.—MY HONOURED AND VALUED FRIEND,—At the time when the melancholy death of His Highness Maharajah Sri Chamarajendra Wadeyar Bahadur, G.C.S.I., Your

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Highness' father, occurred in Calcutta, I conveyed at once to Her Highness, your mother, as well as to yourself the sincere sympathy which was felt both here and in England with His Highness' family in consequence of so untoward a catastrophe. I have already made known the approval given by the Government of India to your succession to the Chiefship of the Mysore State. I now formally confirm that approval, and assure you that, if you are fitted by character and ability when you are qualified by age to assume so high and honourable a position, you will be entrusted with the ruling powers so well discharged by your father. A grave responsibility devolves meanwhile upon the British Government in supervising your own education and the provisional Government of the Mysore State, and this is a matter to which I have devoted anxious thought. Happily, the present circumstances are auspicious. A fitting central authority must be provided during Your Highness' minority. The Government of India, by conferring upon Her Highness Maharani Vanivilas, C.I., the dignity and position of Regent of the Mysore State, mark, in a special manner, their confidence that they will find in Her Highness, in the Minister who has ably filled the difficult post of Dewan, and in the experienced officials who may be associated with him, the means of continuing under their own special care a system of administration which has stood with success the test of time.

"I will, in conclusion, assure Your Highness and, through you, Her Highness the Maharani that the Government of India will continue to watch over your interests and those of the Mysore State with a jealous regard for the welfare of both.

"Your Highness will ever find in the Resident a friend and adviser at hand, who possesses the confidence of my

Government, and whose help will be at the service of the Mysore State. My endeavour will be to secure the continued prosperity of the State. I sincerely trust that Your Highness may prove worthy to fill the place of your lamented father, whose untimely removal I cannot cease to deplore. I desire to express the high consideration which I entertain for Your Highness and to subscribe myself Your Highness's sincere friend, ELGIN, *Viceroy and Governor-General of India*—Fort William, the 25th January 1895."

Subsequently was issued the following proclamation, dated Bangalore, the 18th February 1895:—

"Whereas His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council has been pleased to declare that the administration of the State of Mysore shall, during the minority of His Highness Maharajah Sri Krishnaraj Wodeyar Bahadur, Maharajah of Mysore, be conducted by Her Highness Maharani Vanivilas Sannidhana Kempananjamanniavar, C.I., as Regent, and by the Dewan, assisted by a Council of three Members, of which he shall be President, Her Highness the Maharani-Regent has been pleased, with the approval of the Government of India, to appoint—

- (i) Rajadharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, Chief Judge of the Chief Court of Mysore,
- (ii) Mr. P. N. Krishnamurti, Judge of the Chief Court of Mysore, and
- (iii) Khan Bahadur Mr. Abdul Rahman, Deputy Commissioner of Shimoga,

to be members of the Council aforesaid for a term of three years, being, however, eligible for re-appointment at the end of that period. Her Highness the Maharani-Regent has been pleased further to direct that the second and

third Members of Council appointed as above enter upon their duties after being relieved of the offices they now respectively hold. Mr. Thumboo Chetty will, in addition, retain his position as Chief Judge until relieved of the same in due course."

In a letter dated 9th January 1895 Colonel T. G. Clarke wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty expressing deep regret at the demise of Maharajah Chamarajendra Wodeyar he added :—

" We feel much for the poor Maharani, as well as for those engaged in the administration to whom the event will bring a very severe loss. I may claim to have known His Highness since he was a child of five years old, and was present when the formal ceremony of adoption to the throne took place. I have thus had great opportunities of watching his career, and, as all others, had hoped that Mysore would for many years hence enjoy his rule so marked by great dignity and sound sense, as well as for just consideration towards all under his Government. It is sad to think that a life, on the training and cultivation of which so much anxious care and thought have been expended, should have been cut short thus early . . . It is well that our Government have in Colonel Henderson one who, from all accounts, has shown capacity to deal with this crisis and to advise the Viceroy as to the steps to be taken. Of course, there will be a Council of Regency, but how it will be formed I can form but a dim conjecture. It must be a strong Council, if the various and clashing interests in Mysore are to be effectively handled. I hope you are going on well as ever. I often think of your expressed desire to retire from the service in 1881. Happily, you did not carry your intention into effect, for you have been able, in God's providence, to work on for 14 years

since with great advantage to the State, and I trust you may have many years' more work before you."

It is true that Mr. Thumboo Chetty first thought of retiring in 1881, and subsequently thrice (in 1883, 1894 and 1898) expressed a desire to be relieved of the official harness, but the workings of the 'Mighty hand unseen' ordained otherwise for the accomplishment of some good and high purpose. At the first formation of the Regency Council, there were some adverse criticisms anent the new constitution; but all those who had an intimate knowledge of its working were in favour of the change. Among those who had formed such favourable opinion was Sir William Lee-Warner, who, in his letter dated 5th November 1895, wrote :—

"MY DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—I was very pleased to get your letter. The Council has worked well so far and will continue to do so. I am sure that Mr. Young will give you all the necessary advice, and that the ability and common sense of your Council will realise all expectations. Opposition you may expect, but it will be discounted. Has your C.I.E. ever been given you? If it is given publicly, send me the account of it in the daily press, as I shall always take great interest in your progress and actions."

Mr. Thumboo Chetty was, after the expiration of the first term of three years, re-appointed as member of the Regency Council. The *Times* issued the following bulletin on March 23, 1898 :—

"That long expected announcement by the British Resident on behalf of the Government of India in regard

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to the future *Personnel* of the Mysore Council of Regency has at last been received to-day, and Colonel Roberston has very courteously placed the following particulars of the Government of India's communication at my disposal :—

“ Mr. Thumboo Chetty and Mr. Krishna Moorthy will remain in office as Senior and Revenue Councillors, respectively, and in consequence of the retirement of the other member, Mr. Abdul Rahman, Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, who recently acted as a Councillor (without prejudice to his other duties as Inspector-General of Police and Plague Commissioner) will fill the vacancy. This arrangement has been arrived at with the consent and approval of H. H. the Maharani-Regent, but the term of office of the Councillors has not yet been fixed, nor have the rules of Council business been modified (as appears to have been rendered desirable from past experience). These details will receive attention at an early date.”

H. H. the Maharani-Regent, C. I.—During the Regency, Mr. Thumboo Chetty, both as Senior Councillor and Acting Dewan, had frequent interviews with Her Highness the Maharani in connection with the affairs of the State, and his impression of Her Highness' aptitude for work is thus noted in his scrap book :—

“ In my repeated official visits I was really struck with Her Highness the Maharani's capacity for business, fair knowledge of things and amiable character. She listened to everything with exemplary patience. Her mind was bold and acute, and whatever be the subject of discussion, she came directly to the point and brought it to a happy completion. Sometimes her enlightened suggestions and direction most agreeably surprised me and afforded ready

solution of many difficulties. Her anxiety to promote the highest and best interests of the country was always perceptible. I invariably retired from the interviews I had with a strong sentiment of devotion as well as admiration and respect for Her Highness' high character and intellectual qualities."

Dassara Banquet Speech.—During the Dassara State Dinner at Mysore on 18th October 1899, Mr. Thumboo Chetty, as Acting Prime Minister, represented Their Highnesses the Maharani-Regent and the Maharajah and responded to the toast of General McLeod, c.B., D.S.O., proposing the healths of Their Highnesses in these terms :—

"GENERAL MCLEOD, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—Her Highness the Maharani-Regent has been pleased to ask me to reply to the toast which has just been drunk with so much enthusiasm and cordiality. I wish the Dewan, Sir Sheshadri Iyer, was present to do it with his usual eloquence and grace. In his absence, I find myself placed in the peculiar position I am in at the present moment. I feel I cannot do sufficient justice to the task entrusted to me ; but I am confident you will overlook any shortcomings on my part and take the will for the deed. Her Highness feels highly honoured and gratified by the graceful and complimentary manner in which her health and that of the young Maharajah has been proposed by General McLeod, and by the very friendly and cordial manner in which the toast has been received and responded to, and she thanks you all most heartily for the same. The traditional observance of the Dassara has, as you are aware, obtained the greatest celebrity for the Royal House of Mysore, and it is a source of the highest gratification to Her Highness to find that the annual recurrence of this

State ceremonial affords the opportunity for such a pleasant gathering as there is here to-night of her European friends—friends who have always taken a deep interest in the progress and prosperity of this ancient Hindu Dynasty, which possesses much historical importance in connection with the British supremacy in India. It has, therefore, given Her Highness immense pleasure and pride to welcome you all to her capital during this Dassara, and to tender her most sincere and grateful thanks for your kind acceptance of her invitation and for taking part in these festivities. Gatherings, akin to the present, also afford His Highness the young Maharajah opportunities of moving frequently in European society and of acquiring the many excellences possessed by his European friends and well-wishers, who will be kindly, yet watchful, observers of his progress towards the development of everything tending to befit him for the exalted position in store for him as the 'Ruler of Mysore.' With such an able, experienced and affectionate Tutor and Governor as Mr. Fraser, and under his fostering care and benign influence, we may rest assured that the youthful Maharajah's rapid development, physically, intellectually and morally, is quite ensured. Her Highness desires to acknowledge the obligation she is under to General McLeod for the kind terms in which he was pleased to refer to her administration of the State, the success of which is due, as has been repeatedly admitted in this hall, to the valuable advice and support which Her Highness, and her Chief Minister and the Members of Council invariably received from the British Resident, the local representative of the paramount power, a power which exercises a commanding influence upon the destinies of Mysore. In connection with plague, which, to Her Highness' deep sorrow, has wrought its horrors among her beloved subjects and

caused unparalleled distress, great mortality and general depression of trade, the sympathy, co-operation and guidance of Colonel Robertson greatly strengthened the hands of the Durbar and enabled it to carry on the plague measures almost on the lines indicated by the Government of India. It is a matter for congratulation that, for the past three or four months, there has been great improvement and abatement, and Her Highness trusts under Providence that this dire calamity will soon pass away and things will, ere long, be restored to their normal state. Her Highness once more begs to thank you all for the handsome manner in which her health and that of the young Maharajah has been proposed and drunk. (Loud Cheers)."

Administration Report, 1900.—Owing to Sir Sheshadri Iyer's indisposition, an account of the administration of the Mysore Province for 1899-1900 had to be prepared and issued by Mr. Thumboo Chetty as Officiating Dewan on 6th October 1900. This was reviewed favourably by the Indian as well as the English newspapers, and the *London Times* of 7th November 1900 contained the following brief notice of the report :—

"*Mysore Administration Report.*—The account of the administration of the Mysore State during the year 1899-1900 is prepared by Mr. Thumboo Chetty. The report begins and ends with events that do not come under the head of dry administration work. The first is the marriage of the young Maharajah with the daughter of a Chief of Kattiawar, and the 'alliance is regarded as a most auspicious union full of happy augury.' The second event is the visit of Lord Curzon announced for the end of the present month. Between the two are recorded the details of

the year's administration. With famine and plague in the land, and a monsoon short by 20 in., no remarkable progress could be expected, and it is as much as could be expected if no notable diminution of revenue and prosperity has to be recorded. The Mysore Government has kept things fairly level in a bad year. The revenue shows a slight increase, the expenditure a small reduction, and thus the deficit, entirely due to railway expenditure, is one-third what it was at the end of 1899. The land provides more than half the revenue. The forests and gold royalties count among the chief contributories, but excise on arrack and toddy brings in more than the two combined. A fifth of the revenue is assigned to public works, and nearly half a million rupees are dispensed under the ominous heading of plague. The late Maharajah was a great advocate of female education, and an interesting fact may be noted in the increase of the number of girls under instruction from 13,674 to 15,754. Military expenditure has been reduced to the lowest possible point and represents only 6 per cent. of the total."

SIR J. B. LYALL wrote as follows:—

"November 14th, 1900.—STATESBOROUGH EASTRY S. O., KENT.—DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—I am much obliged to you for ordering a copy of the Mysore State Administration Report for 1899-1900 to be sent to me. I read it as usual with much interest. I am glad to see that you are officiating as Dewan, but I hope that no break down of health or other misfortune has happened to Dewan Sir K. Seshadri Iyer. I know, of course, that he has long been in delicate health and thinking of retiring, but I have had no news about him of late. I hope you yourself, after your many years of arduous service, are still strong and well. Please present my kindest remembrances to Colonel Robertson, and believe me, Yours sincerely, J. B. LYALL."

SIR WILLIAM LEE-WARNER wrote :—

"I have heard, from many sources, of the pleasure which his reception at Mysore gave to His Excellency the Viceroy. I am very glad to receive a report on Mysore signed by you as Dewan, or at the top of the Administration, in which you have served your life and to which you have given valued and single-minded devotion of heart and mind."

Reception of High Personages.—A Prime Minister in a Native State is beset with numerous difficulties and embarrassments and, amidst his multifarious official duties, he has occasionally to arrange for the reception of high personages, and during Mr. Thumboo Chetty's acting incumbency he had no easy task in connection with preparations made for the visits to Mysore of two Governors and a Viceroy, Lord Curzon. These preparations, apart from the heavy expenditure which is unavoidable, involve that attention and foresight necessary to ensure the completeness and excellence of the supplies and the entire contentment and jubilation of the Royal guests and their surroundings, including the last man in camp, whether such camp is laid in towns where facilities for satisfying taste exist, or in remote deserts or jungles where it is difficult to assist taste in many of its phases, the ultimate success greatly depending on a well-contrived and previously settled plan of operations so as to give weight, dignity and pleasure to the various entertainments as in dramatic

performances. The strength of the genius of a Dewan and his leading action are sorely tested on such occasions, producing an immense strain of mind and worry to the temporary detriment of other work. Mr. Thumboo Chetty, however, with his practical good sense and varied experience, managed every thing in a way which caused less disturbance from care and anxiety and with seeming easiness of mind.

Appreciation of services as Acting Dewan.—As Acting Dewan Mr. Thumboo Chetty was in all matters fairly successful, and it was gratifying to him to receive the following letter from the Assistant Private Secretary :—

“MYSORE, SUNDAY.—MY DEAR SIR,—I have submitted the contents of your letters to Her Highness, who was much pleased to hear them. She was further pleased to express that during your short tenure of office as Dewan you gave her the most complete satisfaction in the discharge of the onerous duties entrusted to you. Let me congratulate you on the richly deserved compliment. It is not to every one's lot that such a thing comes.”

Lord Curzon's Visit—Unveiling the Maharajah's Statue.—In December 1900 when His Excellency Lord Curzon visited Mysore, His Excellency performed the most interesting and imposing ceremony of unveiling the statue of H.H. the late Maharajah, Chamarajendra Wodeyar Bahadur, G.C.S.I., on which occasion Mr. Thumboo Chetty addressed His Excellency as follows :—

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—Her Highness the Maharani-Regent desires me to say that the visit of Your Excellency to Mysore, accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Curzon, has afforded unbounded pleasure to both the Maharani-Regent and the Maharajah as well as to the people of Mysore. In the person of Your Excellency we have the august representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, to whose special favour and protection Mysore owes so much both in the past and in the present. Her Highness considers that it is her good fortune that she has been enabled to take advantage of Your Excellency's advent to Mysore to solicit Your Excellency to do her the great honour of kindly performing the ceremony of unveiling the statue of her late dearly beloved husband whom it pleased God to take to Himself six years ago. On the occurrence of that great calamity, which had befallen both the Ruling House and the people of Mysore, there was a general and spontaneous desire that some permanent memorial should be established to remind the present generation and future ages of the many virtues and noble qualities of His Highness the late Maharajah Sri Chamarajendra Wodeyar Bahadur, G.C.S.I., whose benign rule of fourteen years subsequent to the Rendition had won for him the love, respect and esteem of all his subjects. His bright example both as a ruler and in private life was such that the more it was seen the more it was admired and appreciated. The establishment of this memorial, intended to perpetuate his name, will this day become an accomplished fact under Your Excellency's auspices; and the ceremony of unveiling which Your Excellency is about to perform will for ever be remembered in the annals of Mysore. In this connection I beg respectfully to place in Your Excellency's hands an extract from the Dasara Address of 1895 delivered by Dewan Sir K. Sheshadri

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Iyer, K.C.S.I. To commemorate Your Excellency's visit to Mysore and the inauguration of this memorial by Your Excellency, Her Highness proposes to set apart the ground around this statue and constitute it a park with an ornamental tower, fountain, etc., all to be called after Your Excellency's name, so that it may be a place of amusement and recreation not only to the people of the town but to all who may come hither to visit the statue on Dassara and other festive occasions. Her Highness feels deeply grateful to Her Excellency Lady Curzon for having graced this occasion with Her Excellency's presence. On behalf of Their Highnesses the Maharani-Regent and the Maharajah, I now beg that Your Excellency will be graciously pleased to unveil the statue and gladden the hearts of the five millions of the inhabitants of Mysore."

The veil was removed amidst loud cheering after an excellent speech by His Excellency.

Interview with Lord Curzon.—

"THE RESIDENCY, Sunday 9th.—DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—His Excellency the Viceroy will see you at 3 p.m. to-day. Yours sincerely, D. ROBERTSON."

In accordance with this note, dated 9th December 1900, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had a long interview with Lord Curzon, and the following is a brief note of that interview:—

"In private conversation there is always great freedom and familiarity. The quickness with which His Excellency grasped the things said to him, and the liveliest expression of wit that now and then fell from him made the conversation most agreeable. His Excellency, who was naturally anxious to know if, in my case, the change of

religion was recent or ancient, was surprised to learn that my forefathers embraced the Catholic Faith some centuries ago through the instrumentality of the Jesuit Missionaries, who, I remarked, wisely tolerated the observance of caste and Hindu social manners and customs, in so far as they were not repugnant to the precepts and tenets of the Christian religion. Southern India, which was the scene of labours of those zealous missionaries, is now inhabited by a very large number of Catholics, the descendants of whole families originally converted, who, notwithstanding the lapse of centuries, have clung to caste and social usages and are in touch with their non-Christian Hindu brethren. The applicability of the Hindu law of inheritance to the Indian caste Catholics next formed the topic of an interesting discussion. I ventured to point out to His Excellency that, during the time of Dr. Charboneaux, Bishop of Mysore, and Mr. Bowring, the Chief Commissioner, who were thoroughly conversant with the position of Native Catholics in Mysore, a special recommendation was made to the Government of India, who were pleased to exempt all Native Christians in Mysore from the operation of the provisions of the Indian Succession Act, while in British India there was no such exemption. This conflict of law worked hardship and placed Native Christians in the two places under certain disadvantages, a state of things which required remedy. I also alluded to the Conscience of Liberty Act, XXI of 1850, not being applicable to Mysore. The *pros* and *cons* of the questions mooted above were listened to with patience by His Excellency, who, however, was very guarded in his expressions and avoided committing himself to any decided view or opinion. The conversation then turned upon various other matters connected with the State in which, I said, I had been serving for more than three decades, during which period

I have had the pride, pleasure and honour of making my acquaintance with His Highness the old Maharajah, (grandfather of the present Maharajah) of serving the late lamented and illustrious Maharajah, Sri Chamarajendra Wodeyar Bahadur as his Chief Judge, Councillor and, occasionally, as Prime Minister, of being associated with no less than 20 Chief Commissioners and British Residents, and of welcoming to Mysore no less than six Viceroys including Lord Curzon. The conversation, which was peculiarly felicitous throughout, was brought to a close by my informing Lord Curzon of my contemplated early retirement from the Mysore Service, when His Excellency was graciously pleased to express his appreciation of my long services and, particularly, to congratulate me on having brought up the work that was in accumulation when I was appointed to officiate as Dewan. I thanked His Excellency most sincerely, stood up and offered my salutations, when His Excellency heartily shook hands with me, and I retired."

Retirement from Mysore Service.—Some of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's friends, on hearing of his intended retirement from the Mysore Service, wrote to him as follows:—

Mr. L. BOWRING, Retired Chief Commissioner:—

"One is apt to feel rather anxious about those who, after a very active life of hard work, retire from office. I am sorry to hear you contemplate resigning your charge; but, of course, a time comes to all men when they feel that repose is needed, and you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have done your work nobly and gained for yourself the esteem of all who have come in contact with you."

Colonel T. G. CLARKE wrote:—

“I observe that you contemplate retiring from the service of the State after, I think, some 30 years or more of continuous employment in Mysore. I am not surprised that you think of taking this step, unwilling as you must be, to relinquish a post of distinction and (what is more) of usefulness; but the time comes to us all when the strain of work must be relaxed, and I am sure you are wise in doing so before that strain begins to feel oppressive. You will retire with a consciousness that you have served the state ‘with all your might,’ and it must add infinitely to your happiness in your retirement as Dewan that you have gained the esteem and respect of all under whom you have served. If you retire now while your faculties are unimpaired, your career of usefulness will not be ended, and I trust, under God’s blessing, you may be spared to do good work for many years to come.”

Mr. J. D. MAYNE wrote:—

“You have now to try, for the first time in your life, the different and no less difficult business of being an idle man. Many people break down under it; but I have no doubt you have secured for yourself interests and occupations which will prevent time from lying heavy on your hands. You are quite right to look about for some, in all of which you will, at once, interest yourself. I was glad to find that you had turned to that form of literary labour for which your past experience has so eminently fitted you. Why should you write a law book? Your long acquaintance with the Government of Mysore ought, I should think, to supply you with various subjects well worth writing about. A history of Mysore, written from Native sources, would be most interesting.”

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The Honourable Sir A. Seshayya Sastri, in one of his letters, expressed a wish that both Sir Sheshadri Iyer and Mr. Thumboo Chetty would continue in the Mysore Service till His Highness the young Maharajah attained majority, to which Mr. Thumboo Chetty replied on 3rd August 1900 as follows :—

“ It is very kind of you to wish that both Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer and myself should continue in Mysore Service till His Highness is placed on the throne. Sir Sheshadri Iyer may, if he improves in health, hold on ; but I have been in harness for the past 45 years, and though Her Highness the Maharani-Regent had also expressed a desire like yourself, I feel that the sooner I am let off to enjoy some repose the better. Your remark that ‘wise ministers and experienced councillors are not common’ no doubt represents the true sentiments of an able, experienced and brilliant Indian statesman like yourself, but there are younger and ambitious men who view things differently, and who are perhaps not blameworthy in holding that, with the advance of age, one cannot continue animated with a spirit of perpetual youth and unfading sagacity and capacity for administrative work. ‘Trees, when lopped, will soon grow again,’ is a maxim that applies to a progressive state of society or Government. Likewise, in the numerous steps of the official ladder filled with men of learning and genius and of an active and enterprising mind, sometimes with disappointed hopes if one or two occupying the uppermost positions are retired or removed, the loss is easily and readily repaired by others below the steps, quickly climbing up. The ravages of time work wonders, and it not unfrequently happens that periodical changes excite little or no sympathy in the breast, either from shortsightedness or self-

interest. The best men in the world are not without such faults, and your theory, therefore, is practically unheeded. I have resolved to retire as soon as I am relieved by Sir Sheshadri Iyer, who may also follow suit if there is no improvement in his health."

Actual Retirement from the Mysore Service.—By a singular coincidence both Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer and Mr. Thumboo Chetty retired almost simultaneously, and the Dewan's mantle, held *pro tem* by the latter, fell on Mr. Krishnamurti, the next Senior Councillor. The following notification was issued in the *Mysore Gazette* :—

" No. 438 D. C., dated Bangalore, 18th March 1901.—In permitting Raja Dharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., Member of Council and Officiating Dewan of Mysore, to retire from the service of the State with effect from the date of the expiry of the furlough granted to him by separate notification of this date, Her Highness the Maharani-Regent, C.I., takes this opportunity of expressing her sense of the very valuable services rendered by him in the various high and responsible offices which he has filled during a service in the State extending over a period of 34 years. Her Highness feels that, by his retirement the State loses the services of an officer of wide experience, remarkable industry and singular devotion to duty."

Thus happily ended the official career of one who, from humble situations, gradually rose to be the Prime Minister of one of the principal Native States in British India, who attained a pitch of popularity which rendered him the idol of Mysore

Province, and who, by his example, has proved to the world that the very heights of social and public life are accessible to all from whatever low level they commence, provided they take advantage of the openings Providence may set before them in life, and work with patience, perseverance, industry and honesty. The citizens of Kolar, Chitaldroog and other principal places in Mysore held meetings and passed resolutions expressing their regret at Mr. Thumboo Chetty's retirement; and at a public meeting held in Bangalore it was decided to perpetuate his memory by the erection of a statue. Whether this is done or not, his judgments pronounced while he was in the Chief Court, which have been published, and his writings in general on subjects already referred to, and this brief sketch of his life will remain as perpetual monuments of his fame. Even subsequent to his retirement, many who were working in subordination to him felt that, while Mr. Thumboo Chetty never spared himself, he was, at the same time, most eager in seeking and most successful in obtaining the cordial assistance and co-operation of those from whom he had to exact work. One of them, the present Dewan, Mr. T. Ananda Rao, B.A., son of the late Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao, K.C.S.I., who was Chief Secretary to Government on some occasions when Mr. Thumboo Chetty acted as Dewan, wrote on 20th March 1901 as follows:—

“It will be presumptuous and, therefore, unbecoming on my part to say anything in praise of your official career

when higher and more competent authorities have spoken about it. But it is necessary for my purpose to say that the standard which you set before yourself and expected in others has always been high and your tests severe. It is, therefore, no little satisfaction to me to know that I have passed through the ordeal so as to merit your approbation."

Note on Mysore.—Soon after his retirement, a change in the Mysore Constitution was under contemplation, consequent on the approaching termination of the Regency and the installation of the young Maharajah, and Mr. Thumboo Chetty having been consulted, placed on record a brief note, giving a summary of the past and present administration of Mysore and offered certain suggestions for improvement of the future administration. This paper, which was drawn up in Jaunary 1902, has been reproduced in Appendix with permission. It showed the progress attained and results achieved from 1881 (when the Rendition took place) to end of June 1901, *i.e.*, during a period of 20 years when Mr. Thumboo Chetty had the honour of being a principal member of Government. The following is an extract from that paper :—

"*From 1881 to 1894.*—With the most disastrous famine that preceded the Rendition, the accumulated surplus of nearly a crore had disappeared, a debt of 80 lakhs was incurred, and a fifth of the population was swept away, and although His late Highness commenced his administration under great disadvantages, yet, by the end of his memorable reign, 315 miles of Railway were added at a cost of 164½ lakhs to the 58 miles which were open in 1881. The

mileage of roads rose from 3,930 to 5,091 at a cost of $67\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. The number of municipalities rose from 83 to 107, and the number of hospitals and dispensaries from 19 to 116, and the population increased by more than 18 per cent. The annual expenditure on irrigation works alone, which, in 1880-81, was a little over 3 lakhs, rose to $13\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in 1894-95. Nearly a crore was spent on original irrigation works from 1881 to 1894, making an addition of 355 square miles to the area under wet cultivation, bringing an additional revenue of $8\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs. The land revenue demand rose from 69 to 96 lakhs, showing an increase of 39 per cent. The occupied area from 6,154 to 9,863 square miles or by 60 per cent. The excise revenue rose from 10 to 32 lakhs. Forest from 5 to 13 lakhs. Under 'Gold Mining,' the royalty of a lakh, which was received for the first time in 1886-87, rose to a little over $7\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in 1894-95. Stamps and Registration fees produced an increased income of 65 and 124 per cent., respectively. Excluding Municipal and Local Fund receipts, the revenues proper rose from 103 to $180\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs or by 75.24 per cent. and the expenditure from Rs. 103,33,000 to Rs. 163,65,943. Deducting from the total receipts all expenditure, including the outlay on all works and purposes of public utility, the net assets on 30th June 1895 amounted to Rs. 176,38,505. Under 'Education' there was great progress. The number of Government and aided schools rose from 1,047 to 3,897, and the expenditure from 3 to a little over 8 lakhs.

Regency.—In 1895, the Regency was formed, and from 1894-95 to the end of June 1901, the published statistics exhibit the following results:—

- (a) The population shows an increase of a little over 12 per cent.

- (b) The gross revenue rose from $180\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs to a little over $191\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, and the expenditure from $163\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs to $179\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs.
- (c) The Railway receipts for 1900-01 were Rs. 6,35,298 as against Rs. 5,74,354 in 1894-95.
- (d) The land revenue demand alone rose from 96 to $98\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs.
- (e) The royalty from gold mining from $7\frac{1}{4}$ to $14\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.
- (f) Abkari from 32 to over 36 lakhs.
- (g) Stamps from 7 to $7\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, and Registration fees from Rs. 96,000 to over a lakh.
- (h) The other items of revenue were almost stationary, not being affected materially by the depression of trade, etc., caused by Plague.
- (i) There was considerable increase under 'Stamps' and 'Registration,' as also in Civil litigation, as the value of suits disposed of rose from 24 lakhs in 1894-95 to more than $33\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in 1900-01.
- (j) Under 'Criminal Justice' there has been an improvement, as the percentage of convictions was better; and, notwithstanding the increase of population, the average number of admissions into the jail, in 1900-01, was only 1,127 as against 980 in 1894-95.
- (k) For the better protection of property and person, the strength of the police force was considerably enhanced, and the police charges rose from Rs. 7,35,000 in 1894-95 to Rs. 9,65,000 in 1900-01.
- (l) The number of Hospitals and Dispensaries increased from 116 to 134, and the number of Municipalities from 107 to 124.

(m) Under 'Education' the number of schools, Government and aided, rose from 3,897 to 4,009, and the cost from a little over 8 lakhs to nearly 10 lakhs.

(n) The net assets, in 1894-95, were $176\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, which, on 30th June 1900, rose to $212\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs; but the heavy plague expenditure of nearly 15 lakhs, and the very large outlay incurred on such special works as the Marikanave Project and the Cauvery Electric Power Scheme and on Railway works, and the setting apart of the Railway Redemption Fund, all tended to lower the assets, on 30th June 1901, to about 146 lakhs. This was unavoidable. The total expenditure on Public Works, from 1881 to 1900-01, exceeded $5\frac{1}{2}$ crores; and, out of this, the amount spent on Irrigation works and original major Water-supply works is nearly 2 crores. This includes the outlay on Marikanave Project. Nearly $31\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs were spent in connection with the water-supply of Bangalore and Mysore cities, which now enjoy the greatest blessing of a pure and never failing supply of water. The enormous outlay on Public Works and the capital sunk on Gold Mining industry have attracted a large body of skilled labour and miscellaneous working population from outside the Province. This has tended to indirectly enhance our 'Abkari revenue.' It will thus be seen that, even during the period of Regency, notwithstanding the prevalence of plague and partial drought and the unforeseen and heavy expenditure aforesaid, the general revenues have shown an increase as compared with the figures of the period preceding the

Regency, affording additional proof of the efficiency of the arrangements made by the British Government for carrying on the administration."

Mr. Bowring, while acknowledging a copy of the note referred to above, wrote as follows:—

"WOODLANDS, TORQUAY, 22nd June 1902.—MY DEAR FRIEND,—I have duly received your letter of 20th May, and the pamphlet referred to in it regarding the Mysore Administration. I have perused your remarks with much interest, but, having comparatively little knowledge of the course of events in the province and of any defects in the past Government which need amendment, I fear that any remarks on my part would be of little value. It is of course inexpedient, in these days of progress, that the Maharaja should exercise uncontrolled authority, without the assistance of Councillors ; but, as he has received an excellent education, he will, no doubt, see the necessity of taking advice from them in matters of importance, while he can always appeal to the Resident, should they act contrary to the interests of the country. Pressure on his part should always ensure the rapid despatch of business on the part of the Dewan, should any slackness be apparent, as would seem to have been the case formerly. I have always had some doubts as to the expediency of calling together annually an assembly of so-called representative members, whose rather crude suggestions seem to have been generally set aside or postponed indefinitely, but I see no objection to a Legislative Council selected from the ablest of the higher officials. They would only meet occasionally, but the executive should, I think, be carried on by the Members of Council in conjunction with the Dewan.

Para. 21. I think the Government might perhaps raise its royalty on the gold mines, but, in such a fluctuating enterprise as mining, I should avoid demanding a share of profits for the Government.

Para. 25. I presume no further Inam grants would be made without the consent of the Resident, though, for *special* services to the State, I do not see why such should not meet with recognition.

Para. 26. I quite agree that the P.W.D. accounts should be supervised by an independent officer, as engineers are too far apt to evade efficient economic control over expenditure.

Para. 27. I think the Silladars and the Bar, considered as a Local Force, are now useless, and that they should be incorporated in a revised Police system of mounted and infantry constabulary, though no doubt the Maharaja should have a limited number of both as a personal body-guard. There are a few debatable points regarding expenditure in your memorandum which I do not feel competent to discuss, such as your comparative estimate of expenditure in Mysore and your selected four districts in Madras. I quite concur in what you say in para. 23 as to the maintenance in due repair of the smaller works of irrigation, but I do hope that the Marikanave Project, which should bring prosperity to the barren taluks of Chitaldrug, will receive unremitting attention. I fear my observations on your able paper are not of much value. I have been in London recently and attended a grand banquet given by the Asiatic Society to the Indian Princes who have produced a most favourable impression in this country. Believe me, with very kind regards,
Yours sincerely, LEWIN B. BOWRING."

The following is Mr. Thumboo Chetty's reply to the above :—

"RUGBY HALL, CLEVELAND TOWN, BANGALORE, 12th August 1902.—MY DEAR SIR,—I thank you very much for your kind favour of 22nd June, which contains your valuable opinion on some important points referred to in my printed note on Mysore. I very much appreciate the candid expression of your views, and I have accordingly taken the opportunity which I had while at Mysore for the installation of the young Maharaja, of submitting your letter for His Highness' perusal. His Highness expressed himself very pleased to have the benefit of your opinion, coming as it does from one of the ablest and most experienced of all the Chief Commissioners who conducted the administration of Mysore."

The lamented Demise of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India.—Just a few weeks before Mr. Thumboo Chetty was relieved of the Dewanship, happened the most melancholy event, the demise of that illustrious, universally admired and adored Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, Empress of India, followed simultaneously by the announcement of the accession to the Throne of one of the greatest nations of the world of Edward VII., King-Emperor, who, as His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, was always regarded as the rising sun of Great Britain, capable of worthily filling His Royal mother's place on the magnificent throne of England. While conveying, through the Honourable the British Resident, Her Highness the Maharani-Regent's respectful homage

to the new King-Emperor, a tribute was also paid to the memory of the departed Sovereign in the following notification, dated 23rd January 1901, which was published in the *Mysore Gazette* :—

“OFFICE OF THE DEWAN OF MYSORE, Notification dated 23rd January 1901.—Her Highness the Maharani-Regent, C.I., has heard, with the most profound regret, the sad news of the death of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, and, in announcing to the people of Mysore the great calamity that has thus befallen the Empire at large, Her Highness directs that all Public offices, courts and schools in the State be at once closed for five days from to-day. All flags should be kept at half-mast till the day of the funeral, when public offices at head-quarters of all districts will be closed, and 101 minute guns will be fired at the Palaces of Mysore and Bangalore. T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY, *Officiating Dewan.*”

In connection with the proposed Victoria Memorial, a large and influential meeting was held at Bangalore on 18th February 1902, which was presided over by Mr. Thumboo Chetty, who addressed the meeting as follows :—

“In offering my best thanks for your kindness which has placed me in this chair for the purposes of this meeting, please permit me to say that, although I consider I am not quite equal to the task now devolving on me, yet I have accepted it in compliance with your desire, feeling quite confident that very few words from me will suffice to enlist your sympathy and co-operation for the accomplishment of the object with which we have assembled here to-day. This laudable movement originated with our

worthy and popular Municipal President and Collector and District Magistrate, Mr. Harris, who, though now seated behind me, is the real soul of this meeting (Cheers). The object of this meeting is to decide what should be done to do honour to the memory of that much beloved and universally respected Sovereign, Queen Victoria, Empress of India, whose loss we had to deplore, and deplore deeply, nearly 13 months ago. During her long and illustrious reign, which lasted for more than six decades, all classes and creeds that were subject to Her Majesty's mighty sway enjoyed innumerable and inestimable blessings and benefits. India, in particular, owes an incalculable debt of gratitude to the late Queen-Empress for its great advancement, socially, politically, intellectually and morally, as well as for the steady increase in its material prosperity. Mysore is also especially thankful to the same Queen-Empress for the rendition to the ancient ruling family of this important Hindu Kingdom. In short Her late Majesty's reign throughout was not only singularly victorious as her name denoted, but it was a reign that was exceptionally just, beneficent, progressive in every respect and attended with a measure of prosperity and happiness unparalleled in the annals of any country. (Cheers). Animated by these sentiments, which must naturally and powerfully strike all thoughtful minds, we are met here to consider how best we may allow the brilliant name of the departed Sovereign to go down to posterity with more renown. The Calcutta Memorial, under the auspices of our celebrated Viceroy, His Excellency Lord Curzon, has been a splendid success. In Madras, Bombay and other places of the British Empire steps are being taken to establish local memorials. We are also anxious to have in this station, a suitable memorial which will add to the fair fame Bangalore already pos-

sesses, and which will unmistakably testify our love and reverence for a Sovereign who was so truly great and good, and also practically to demonstrate our loyalty and devotion to the British Throne, which is now worthily occupied by Her late Majesty's Illustrious Son, Edward VII., who has inherited all the noble qualities and virtues of his august mother, who already commands the love and duty of all his subjects, and whose future career, as our King-Emperor, promises to be as bright, beneficent, happy and prosperous as that of his late revered mother. (Loud cheers.) The suggestion made for the erection of a statue by the preliminary meeting is no doubt an excellent one, but it would be confined solely to the Station. Everything, however, depends on the sufficiency of funds. It is an old adage, that we must cut our coat according to the quantity of cloth available; but we must also remember that we should not spoil our coat simply because we want more cloth. We must try and get what is wanted and make the coat fashionable and suitable. If, in addition to a merely standing memorial, we could devise something that would be beneficial to both the Station and the Town of Bangalore, and to the whole Province of Mysore, so as to entitle this Station memorial to be regarded also as the Mysore memorial, in the same way that the Calcutta memorial is considered as the All-India memorial, it would be a most desirable thing to do, taking into consideration the peculiar circumstances connected with this Station which forms an integral part of the Province of Mysore. In these days, when there is more theoretical and general knowledge and less application of scientific information to the practical arts, and bearing in mind that technical knowledge is the key to the commercial prosperity of a country, and is of vast importance in developing its rich resources and increasing its wealth, it seems to me that this is a good opportunity to

start an Institute to be called 'The Bangalore Victoria Technical Institute', with the statue erected in or near it. If this is decided upon, it will enable us to go hopefully beyond the Station, and to raise a much larger sum than we could otherwise expect to do. Even for a statue I am afraid that in the present depressed condition, caused by plague during the last two or three years, we will not be able to raise, within the limits of the Station, so much as Rs. 25,000. The Bangalore Station is doubtless the right and most appropriate place for the establishment of the memorial in any shape, for it has been the head-quarters of all the Chief Commissioners of Mysore during the pre-Rendition period. Even subsequent to the Rendition, it continued to be the seat of the representative of the Paramount Power which was centred in Her late Majesty, a power which has heretofore and is now protecting, and shall ever protect, Mysore. (Cheers.) The estimated cost of the Institute is a lakh of rupees—building Rs. 25,000, tools, plant and fittings, Rs. 10,000, sundries Rs. 5,000, and endowment fund required to produce an income of about Rs. 200 monthly for maintenance, Rs. 60,000. Thus the grand total is Rs. 1,00,000. The Institute will, in course of time, be self-supporting, if not remunerative. The statue may be cast locally, with the aid of the Institute. It will cost about Rs. 25,000. All things considered, the idea of having both an Institute and a statue commends itself to me, and I beg accordingly to propose the first resolution entrusted to me in these terms :—'Resolved that, in order to perpetuate the memory of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India, a Technical Institute styled 'The Bangalore Technical Institute' be established in this station, and a statue of Her late Majesty erected in or near the said Institute.' This was carried. Subsequently, owing to want of sufficient funds,

only the erection of a statue was decided upon. When presiding, in December 1901, at the celebration of the Christian College Day in Madras, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had occasion to refer to the great progress in education India has made during the six decades of Her late Majesty's beneficent Rule."

Mr. Thumboo Chetty, subsequent to his retirement, usefully devoted his leisure hours in taking part in several matters connected with public welfare. Alluding to this, Sir William Lee-Warner in one of his letters to Mr. Thumboo Chetty wrote :—

"I am sincerely glad that you are giving your leisure to India. So often retired public servants go into retreat like the Ex-Minister of. . . ., instead of devoting their mature experience to educating the mind of India. Madhava Rao (Rajah Sir T.) did his duty, but such men are rare, and I am glad that you are one of the few."

Installation of the young Maharajah.—Mr. Thumboo Chetty had the inexpressible pleasure of witnessing the anxiously looked for installation of His Highness the young Maharajah, which took place at a grand Durbar held in the Mysore Jagan Mohun Palace by His Excellency Lord Curzon. The congratulatory address by the Native Catholic community of Mysore was presented by Mr. Thumboo Chetty, enclosed in an exceedingly beautiful silver casket, resting on two figures of elephants, with the following inscription :—

"By Dr. E. L. Kleiner, Bishop of Mysore. Presented on behalf of Rajah Dharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., and other members of the Native Catholic community of the Mysore Province."

The address, which was in excellent Latin verse, was read with a translation in English, of which the following is a copy :—

Serenissimo Principi ac Domino,
Domino Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar Bahadur,
Mysurensium Regi,
Episcopus Mysurensis,
S. P. D.

Cœlestes Musæ ! Mysuri dicite Regem,
 Præclaro Juveni dulce ciete melos.
 Sceptrâ tenens hodie solium conscendit avitum
 Et patrii felix carpit moderamina regni.
 Hanc subjectorum, Rex, densam cerne coronam.
 Quæque tibi læto profundunt pectore vota
 Accipe ; Vive diu sospes, Carissime Princeps,
 Et Regina, tibi juvenis nuperrime vineta
 Connubio vivat, productum vivat in ævum.
 Optime Rex, donec Mysuri sceptrâ tenebis
 Subjectis vultum servet fortuna benignum ;
 Te duce, dira lues omnique e limite regni
 Pestiferi fugiant morbi ; Te principe, in arvis
 Rideat uberibus rumpens granaria messis,
 Fragrantes variis decorentur floribus horti,
 Curvatos videat pomorum pondere ramos
 Agricola, et multi fructus lætetur acervis ;
 Te duce, dulcis amor, pax et concordia regnent,
 Omnipotensque tuæ moderetur pectora gentis
 Numen, et irradiet divino lumine mentes.
 Cœlestes Musæ ! Mysuri dicite Regem
 Præclaro Juveni dulce ciete melos !

✠ E. LUDOVICUS,
Episcopus Mysurensis.

ಶ್ರೀಮನ್ಮಹಾರಾಜ ರಾಜಶ್ರೀವಿರಾಜಿತರಾದ
ಶ್ರೀಕೃಷ್ಣರಾಜವೊಡೆಯರವರ ದಿವ್ಯಚಿತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ
ಇದು ಸಂತೋಷಜನಕವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಣಮಿಸಲಿ.



ಶ್ರೀವಾಗ್ಗೀವಿಯೆಕಾಡೌ, ನವರಸಯುತಗೀತಮೊಂದನೀ ಶುಭದಿನದೋಳಿ.
ಭವ್ಯಜನ ಸಂಘವಂದಿತ, ಭವ್ಯ ಮಹೀಶ್ವರ ನಗರಭೂಪರವಿಷಯಂ
ಭಾಸುರೆಗುಣಗಣಹಾರದಿ, ಭಾಸ್ವತ್ಸುಕುಮಾರ ಹೃದಯಭೂವರ್ಗಿಗಳಿ
ಭಾಸ್ವದ್ಗೀತದರೆಸಮಂ, ಭಾಸ್ವನ್ಮತಿಯುತರೆ ಮಾತೆ ಬೇಗದಿ ಪೇಳಿ.
ಸದ್ರಾಜವಂತಾರ್ವ ಪೂರ್ದೆಚಂದ್ರರ್, ಸದ್ರಾಜ ಪಾರಂಪರೆಯಿಂದ ಬಂದಾ
ಸದ್ರಾಜ ಸಿಹ್ನಾಸನದೊಳ್ಳಿಹಾಂತರ್, ಸದ್ರಾಜ ಸೇವ್ಯರ್ ಪಡೆದರ್ ಮುಜೂರ್ತಂ,
ಮಹೀಶ್ವರವೃದ್ಧೀಶ ರಾಜ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಂ, ಮಹಾನಂದದೊಳ್ಳಿಗ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿಕುಂ,
ಮಹಾರಾಜಸಾನ್ನಿಧ್ಯದೊಳ್ಳಿಂತು ಗಾನಂ, ಮಹೀಶ್ವರ ವೃದ್ಧೀ ಜನಂಕೇಳುತಿರ್ಕುಂ.
ಪ್ರಭುಗಳು ರಾಣಿಯರೊಡನೆ, ಪ್ರಭುಜನತಾಪೌರಜಾನ ಪದಪ್ರೀತಿಯುಮಂ,
ಶುಭಕರೆಚಿರಾಯುಷಂಗಳೆ, ವಿಭವಗಳಂ ಪೊಂದುಗೆಂದು ಮೀಸೌಖ್ಯಂಗಳೆ,
ವಿಶ್ವಂಭರಾಭರಣದಕ್ಷರಿಮೀಸುದೇಶಂ, ವಿಶ್ವಾಸದಿಂದ ಪರಿಪಾಲಿತಮಾಗುವಾಗಳೆ,
ಉಭಾಸವಂಬಿಡದೆ ಪೋಗಲಿನಾಶವಾಗೀ, ವಿಶ್ವಾಪ್ರಿಯಾಮಯ ಸಮೂಹಗಳಿಲ್ಲ ದಂತೇ,
ಮುದಾನ್ವಿತ ಮಹೀಪತಿ ತ್ರಿದಶನಾಥರಾಜ್ಯಗಳೇ, ಯುದಾರಗುಣಸಂಗತಾಧಿಕವಿಶಾಲಭೂ
ಮಾನಿನೀ,
ಎದಾ ಸುಮಫಲಂಗಳಿಂದತಿನಮೃತ್ಯುಕ್ಷಂಗಳಿಂ, ದಿದೇಗಮತಿಯಾಗಿ ಪೊಂಬೆಳೆವಸಸ್ಯದಿಂ
ಶೋಭಿಕೇ.

ಸುಮಸುಫಲ ಪ್ರವಾಳ ಬಹುಳಾತ್ಮಸು ಪಾದಪಂಗಳಂ
ಸಮವಿಷಮಸ್ಥಲಂಗಳೊಳು ಮೀಕ್ಷಿಸುಗೀಕೃಷೀವಲರ್.
ಅಮಿತ ಫಲಂಗಳಿಂದತಿ ಮನೋಹರ ಸಸ್ಯಬೃಂದವಂ
ಸುಮಹಿತ ಧಾನ್ಯರಾತಿಗಳನಾಂತ ಸುಗೇಹವಂಚಿರೆಂ,
ಸಮಸ್ತ ಶಕ್ತ್ಯಾತ್ಮಕನಾದ ದೇವಂ
ಸಮಾಹಿತ ಪ್ರೋದ್ಭವ ಮನಸ್ಸಿನಿಂದಂ.
ಪ್ರಮೋದದಿಂದಿಗೇ ಫಲಿಸಮಸ್ತ
ಕ್ಷಮಾ ಪ್ರಜಾರಾಜರೆ ಚಿತ್ತಸೌಖ್ಯಂ.

To

HIS HIGHNESS

Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar Bahadur,

Maharajah of Mysore.

Sing, Heavenly Muse, the praise of Mysore's Prince.

Sing him sweet poeans while his reign begins.

To-day the Prince ascends his royal throne,

His sceptre from this day shall millions own.

Behold, O Prince ! thy subjects' dense array,

And to the song that fills their heart this day

Give ear : Mayest thou, Beloved Chief, live long,

And may thy Bride, as fair as thou art strong,

Share with thee happiness and length of days !

May this fair land, o'er which thy sceptre sways,

Be blest for aye with Fortune's rarest smiles !

May fell disease back to the barren isles

Retreat, that whilom gave it cursed birth !

Beneath thy tender rule may laughing earth

Yield golden harvests wherewith barns may fill !

May flowers cast fragrance everywhere at will !

And everywhere may luscious fruits distend

The laden branches even till they bend !

With thee may Love and Peace and concord reign

In triple sway and—lest all else prove vain—

May He, that guides the universe, direct

Thy people's hearts, and them and thee protect !

Sing, Heavenly Muse, the praise of Mysore's Prince

Sing him sweet poeans while his reign begins !

✠ E. L. KLEINER,

Bishop of Mysore.



HIS HIGHNESS
SRI KRISHNARAJENDRA WADIAR, G.C.S.I.

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On hearing an account of H.H. the Maharajah's Installation, Sir William Lee-Warner wrote to Mr. Thumboo Chetty as follows :—

"Your accounts of Mysore are very interesting, and I join you in the hope that the heart of your young sovereign may be ordered from above, and that his Rule may bring happiness to his subjects."

"INDIA OFFICE, WHITEHALL, S.W., 7-12-05. DEAR MR. THUMBOO CHETTY,—My wife joins me in wishing you all the best wishes for the New year, and we hope that your son is making good use of his start in the public service which you adorned so long. The revenues of Mysore seem to be prosperous, and I hope that the welfare of the people corresponds to the revenues. Here we are in the midst of a change of Government, and do not yet know who will be the new Secretary of State for India. I am sure that you will be pleased with the return of Mr. Fraser, and Lord Minto will, I am sure, be much appreciated by the whole of India. With all good wishes, I am, Yours sincerely, W. LEE-WARNER."

Coronation of King-Emperor and the Delhi Durbar.—The Coronation of His most Gracious Majesty, the King-Emperor, Edward the Seventh, was almost contemporaneous with H. H. the Maharajah's Installation, and, on the 1st January 1903, Mr. Thumboo Chetty had the good fortune of accompanying His Highness to the Delhi Assemblage and there witnessing one of the greatest and grandest events unparalleled in the history of the world, namely, the magnificent celebration of the Coronation of the Emperor to whom he paid his humble

homage in person at Madras, in 1875, as a member of the Mysore Deputation. In one of his letters, Mr. J. D. Mayne congratulates Mr. Thumboo Chetty for having added the Delhi Durbar to his experience and on the happiness he enjoyed in his patriarchal life surrounded by his children and their children. The letter is as follows:—

“GOOD REST, READING, BERKSHIRE, April 2nd, 1903.
MY DEAR THUMBOO CHETTY,—I ought long since have answered your letter of the 24th February, and to-day how highly gratified I was both by the contents of the letter and by the portrait, in Chief Judge's robes, which accompanied it. The latter is, I think, quite the most pleasing you have ever sent me, and you look eminently dignified in your judicial robes. It is certainly one of the greatest pleasures to me to know that I was, as you say, conducive to your very great success in life. Every teacher who puts his heart into his work, as I always did, must influence very many of his pupils, but it is seldom that he can point to a result so happy and marked as in your case. Seldom I suppose does a teacher find a pupil so quick to receive and so well able to use instruction, still seldom does he find a pupil who is ready to attribute to his teacher any part of his success. You draw a very happy picture of your own patriarchal life, surrounded by your children and their children. Providence has denied me any, and it is melancholy as life advances to number your friends by deaths and not by births. You are fortunate in having added the Delhi Durbar to your experience. It was an event in some respects unique. Certainly, no other nation in the world could have exhibited an Empire of 300 million subjects, differing in race, language and religion, and all agreeing in affectionate loyalty to a ruler whose final aim

is to govern them all with wisdom, benevolence and justice, for their own good. It is this spectacle which impressed Europe with wonder and envy. Four months more will see the end of my career at the Bar which began in November 1854. If you could see me sitting in my library surrounded by my books, which have now reached several thousands, you would see that there is no chance of my ever being idle or feeling dull. My only regret is that I shall pass away before I have made myself acquainted with half of the treasures of thought which I have accumulated."

Here is disclosed the secret of true happiness which will be invaluable to one who rests contented, after the cessation of pleasures appertaining to an exalted position, with the solitude of a retired life, sitting serenely at the feet of Wisdom, anxious to learn her lessons and receive her rewards by the favouring gales of Providence, keeping in view, in his readings and devout sentiments, the great end of life, thereby paving the way for the advancement of his future spiritual welfare, when, renewed to eternal life, 'joy will sparkle in his eye and peace on his brow.'

CHAPTER XV.

LAST DAYS AND DEMISE.

It had been given to Mr. Thumboo Chetty to lead a life of strenuous activity and public usefulness long after many of his most eminent contemporaries had passed away, and he had achieved much more than what ordinarily fell to their lot. Though, until the very last, his energies remained unabated for a year before his death, he seems to have been conscious of his approaching end and preparing himself for it. He was constantly advising his wife and children as to how they should behave after his death, and giving expression to his ideas as to the future of the family. He even gave minute directions as to how his funeral was to be conducted, desiring that it should have the same simplicity that characterized his life, and that all unnecessary pomp and adornment should be avoided. A few months before his last illness he visited Madras to attend one more session of his philanthropic work as a member of the Advisory Committee formed in connection with the sudden failure of the firm of Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co., which had shocked the whole of Southern India, and which, from the widespread calamities which it has caused, had roused him from his retirement and inspired him with a desire to stimulate every public effort to lessen their force. Even when paying this visit he seems to have felt that this would be his last visit, and he not only visited all his relatives and bade them good-bye, but went over tenderly every corner

of the house in Malayappen Street, which was the humble abode of his youth and every article in it which was hallowed to him by the associations of his early years. He seems to have returned full of serenity, and elevated by his contemplation over the scenes of his childhood, recalling to mind all those who had gone before him and whom he was soon to meet in the next world.

There remains only one thing which he wished to see done before his death, and that is, have the marriage of his youngest son, who alone had not been settled in life, celebrated. Soon after his return a carbuncle sprang up near the elbow of one of his hands. It took more than a month to heal up, but it cost him nearly half his strength and vitality. Just as this boil was disappearing, another sprang up in the other hand. Both these caused him intense pain, and he bore it with extraordinary fortitude. In spite of it, and with commendable endurance, he arranged from his sick bed all the details of the intended wedding, saw that his object was realized, and that it was conducted on a scale worthy of the occasion. The ceremonies lasted eight days, and he did not omit even a single part assigned to him in them, and did not allow his bodily suffering and his growing feebleness to interfere with the entertainment and hospitality, which from time immemorial are associated with such functions.

After the marriage his condition every day grew worse. Some more carbuncles appeared and caused

still more excruciating pains, which he endured with remarkable patience and resignation. His sufferings lasted for about two months, and towards the end were greatly increased by the rheumatic pains which set in. His death bed exhibited all the exemplary devotion and resignation of a virtuous Catholic. He was constantly invoking to himself the names of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH, in uttering which he said his pains were alleviated and was absorbed in frequent prayer.

On the 16th June 1907 his condition became alarming, and the next two days showed no improvement. On the 18th evening, it was thought desirable to administer to him the last rites of the Church. Rev. Fr. J. B. Servanton, M.A., Chaplain of St. Francis Xavier's Church, who was his spiritual director, was summoned in the evening, and after seeing him promised to come a little later. He returned at about 10 p.m. and sat in the room quietly so as not to disturb the patient. Mr. Thumboo Chettiar, after some time, opened his eyes, and as soon as he saw the priest seated near him, he desired that the prayer, which is recited before Extreme Unction should be read to him from his prayer book, which had been his life-long companion. He followed the prayer with the utmost fervour, and his face was beaming with longing and devotion. The priest then addressed him some suitable words, stating that he should resign himself to the holy will of God, and that the Extreme Unction which was being administered to him would be equally efficacious for his recovery if it were for his

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spiritual benefit, while it fortified his soul. Mr. Thumboo Chetty said that he was fully resigned, and asked for Extreme Unction being administered while all the members of the family were prostrated with grief to whom the words of the priest and the awe-inspiring Sacrament indicated the snapping of all earthly ties, he alone showed no emotion. His countenance appeared peaceful and resigned, and he seemed to be rapt in communion with his Creator. On the termination of these holy rites, turning to Father Servanton, with a look beaming with heavenly gladness, he said: "Father, I am now quite dead to the world," and asked him to bring the Holy Sacrament next morning, so that he may receive it.

After the departure of Father Servanton, Mrs. Thumboo Chetty, who stood sobbing at the foot of the bed, approached her husband and with tears in her eyes plaintively said to him, "are you then going to leave us all!" In reply to this he said calmly and composedly, "it does not fall to the lot of every one to die so happily. God has been specially bountiful to me. I was blessed with all the good things of this earth. What God designed to accomplish in me in this world has been accomplished. The time appointed for my departure has arrived, and I must go. I go cheerfully. Do not feel sorry for my departure." These words, though so edifying and filled with the unction of grace, pierced the hearts of all with poignant grief. There was now no mistaking of the bereavement that was imminent, and each member of the family in turn,

commencing with Mrs. Thumboo Chetty, went near him, kissed his hands and took their last farewell. To every one Mr. Thumboo Chettiar addressed a few words about their future, full of affectionate solicitude, and when all had stood encircling his bed gazed at each one of them silently, bidding farewell and conveying to each one a mandate with his looks to be worthy of him and to follow in his footsteps. He then asked them all to retire for the night and spent the night in solitary communion with God, preparing himself for the eternal haven of rest that was soon to be opened to him, oblivious of all worldly concerns. How inspiring would it be if these thoughts of one who now regarded himself dead to the world and whose serenity was undisturbed by a single worldly consideration could be unfolded to the world.

On the following morning, at about half past seven o'clock, he received the Holy Viaticum with the greatest ardour and piety, and felt his soul invigorated with renewed strength and grace from this life-giving Sacrament.

He now began to sink rapidly, and his articulation gradually grew difficult. Though his physical health was visibly declining, his mental faculties remained unimpaired to the last. He was quite cheerful and received cordially all those that came to see him and spoke to them kindly. He could not take any nourishment and contented himself with sipping a few drops of the holy water of Lourdes in which he had intense faith. Among

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those that paid him a visit on the last day of his life were Mr. H. V. Nanjundayya, M.A., M.L., the present Second Councillor, who was with him for nearly quarter of an hour and received from him some friendly advice; the Coadjutor Bishop, His Lordship Right Reverend Dr. A. Basle, D.D., accompanied by the Rev. Father Desaint, the doyen of the mission, and the Rev. Fathers Jacquemin, Vissac, John Noronha and Bastian Noronha, who had been his life-long friends. The details of these interviews would be full of instruction. Suffice it to say that to each one of the priests who addressed him consoling words and made him feel that death should have no terrors for a happy and good life, he repeated often with great effort that he died altogether happy without any remorse of conscience and full of hopes of redemption. He calmly rebuked his wife, who wished to have a last word from him and asking him whether he had forgotten her, for intruding earthly thoughts upon him and spent his last moments offering his sufferings to God. One and all those who were privileged to see his last moments felt highly edified by his great resignation, intense faith and profound love of God.

At about eight o'clock the end seemed to be very near. Dr. Armugam Mudeliar, M.B., C.M., the Surgeon in charge of the Victoria Hospital, who was attending on him, after examining his pulse informed the family that he would die before midnight. Father Servanton, who had offered to remain with him, so that his last moments might be

sanctified by those prayers which good Christians wish to surround themselves with while dying, gave him the last plenary indulgence, which Mr. Thumboo Chetty received with sentiments of the deepest humility and contrition. At half-past ten, the Penitential Psalms were read, and when this was over, it was thought better to leave him for some time, but just then he showed signs of restlessness and asked for Father Servanton being called in. Father Servanton, who was in an adjoining room, was immediately informed of this, and he came in. In the meanwhile Mr. Thumboo Chetty, pointing out with his right forefinger, said that he had only one minute more to live. As soon as Father Servanton entered and announced himself by repeating aloud Mr. Thumboo Chetty's name, he replied "Thank you, Father, I am in peace with you all and with God," significant words uttered at the supreme moment at which his soul was to be separated from his body. A few seconds thereafter Father Servanton whispered aside in a low tone "This is the last struggle," and turning to Mr. Thumboo Chetty said aloud "Mr. Thumboo Chetty I give you my last absolution." Mr. Thumboo Chetty lifted up his head a little, and as soon as the good priest had pronounced the words of absolution and imparted the blessing, he sank back on his pillow and gave up the ghost. It was half-past eleven in the night when he expired.

The weepings and wailings of the family, which had thus lost its mighty prop and pillar, knew no

bounds. The whole house was plunged in immeasurable grief and the gloom that prevailed in the hearts of all was beyond description.

The necessary preparations for the funeral had to be commenced and arrangements made for intimating the sad news of Mr. Thumboo Chettiar's demise to all.

His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore, to whom the intelligence was sent, caused the following telegram to be despatched by his Private Secretary.

"MYSORE, 20th June 1907—His Highness desires to express on behalf of Her Highness the Maharani, late Regent, and himself the very deep regret with which they have received the news of the death of your father, who was not only their valued friend, but a most distinguished and faithful servant of the State and of their family."

His Highness was further graciously pleased to order that, as a mark of respect to the memory of this most distinguished officer, whose death His Highness deplored, all public offices and schools in the State be closed for the day. This order was given effect to by means of wire throughout the Province and carried out.

From the early hours of the morning following the night of death, the residents of Bangalore poured in to have their last look on Mr. Thumboo Chetty, and the whole of that day people thronged continuously in 'Rugby Hall'. In the evening, at 5 o'clock, all the priests in Bangalore, about forty in number, assembled to assist at the funeral, and

the ceremony of blessing the body at home was so imposing that the like of it was never before witnessed—such a number of the clergy encircling Mr. Thumboo Chetty's remains. After the blessing the clergy themselves bore the body from the inside of the house to the outside where an open bier made up of fresh flowers was in readiness. The body being placed in the bier the funeral procession started, precisely at 6 p.m., with all solemnity. The bier was preceded by a double row of choristers and acolytes bearing crosses, candles and other emblems of the Church. Behind these followed the large concourse of the clergy. The bier was carried on the shoulders of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's friends and relations. All classes of people had thronged and followed the procession. The funeral cortege from the house to the church was thus a long and densely packed one. On arrival at the church, *viz.*, St. Francis Xavier's, the body was removed from the bier and laid in a zinc-lined coffin which was placed in a catafalque in the centre aisle of the church, the clergy and choristers chanting the *Miserere*. A very large number of the officers in the Mysore Service, as well as of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore, were in attendance, and an extremely graceful and sympathetic act was noticeable in the presence of the Honorable Mr. A. Williams, C.S.I., the British Resident in Mysore. Reverend Father Servanton, the Parish Priest, delivered a brief and impressive funeral oration. He said there was no time to dilate at length on all the good and virtuous qualities

of the deceased, who was so well known to all. He would only say that the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty was an exemplary Christian who had served his Heavenly Master as faithfully as he had served his earthly masters—the Government and the Maharaja of Mysore—who had rewarded him for his zeal and integrity by the rapid promotions he received in the service, to the head of which he rose. And, even as it was said of the wise steward in the Bible, “well done, thou good and faithful servant,” it could be said the same of their departed friend. Of the charities of the deceased to the church and the poor he would say nothing, as they were too well known already. In conclusion Father Servanton exhorted his hearers to live as the deceased had done so that when they came to die, they would die like their late friend a saintly death. His Lordship the Bishop, Dr. Basle, next performed the funeral service ; and the coffin was carried to the grave which was prepared in the east wing of the church at the very spot Mr. Thumboo Chetty throughout his lifetime in Bangalore occupied during church services.

Before the remains with the coffin enclosing them were consigned to their last resting place another funeral oration was delivered at the grave-side by Mr. P. G. D'Souza, Under Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, which ran as follows:—

“ We are assembled here to do the last honours to one who was the most prominent member of our

community and a conspicuous citizen of Bangalore, the late Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E. In the case of such a man, whose name is a household word in Mysore, and whose public and private career has been so eminent and offers no little scope for attack even from the most hostile and malignant criticism, it is not necessary to utter any panegyric at all. If we say anything at all, it is simply to remind ourselves of the greatness of our loss and draw the inspiration which the contemplation of a great and good life seldom fails to give. To his family his loss is irreparable. But if it is any consolation for them to find that the grief felt for it is wide and general, as is testified by the great gathering of representative members of all communities, they have it in the fullest degree. It is no exaggeration to say that Bangalore has seldom lost any one whose death has been regarded with such universal regret as his we now mourn. Spiritually, what type of man he was we have the testimony of Rev. Father Servanton, who, as his religious adviser, was able to see the innermost workings of his mind and heart and was present with him during his last moments. He met his death with the greatest fortitude and as one ever ready to render an account of the life that he had lived on earth.

“ For several years of his life, he was so intimately connected with the administration of Mysore, that he has written his name large on its history and will ever occupy a favoured niche in it. From the lowest beginnings of his official life to the highest

summits to which it arose, he exhibited the same high ideal of duty, loftiness of purpose and unwearied industry. To these he owed his rapid advancement in life and the profound confidence which his official superiors ever reposed in him as a Councillor and as holding the highest executive office of the State ; he had the trust and esteem equally of the ever revered late Maharaja, Her Highness the Maharanee Regent, and His present beloved Highness, as also of the several British Residents, and earned for himself the name of a great and impartial Judge, a trustworthy and high principled Councillor, and a safe and capable Administrator. By the people he was regarded as their friend in whose hands their interests were safe and who could be trusted to be indefatigable in his efforts to secure their advancement and welfare. Even after his retirement, in spite of failing health he was ever ready to give them the benefit of his ripe wisdom, keen intellect which age had not dulled, and great experience of men and measures. Of very few public men can it be said that they had fewer enemies, and this he owed entirely to the confidence which he inspired in every one by the highest integrity and unflinching devotion to duty. Few placed in similar circumstances have left so many monuments of their public and private usefulness.

“ His energies were not all consumed in his official duties or domestic pursuits. The interest he took in education, especially of women and the backward

classes, in providing means of relief to the deceased, and in agricultural improvement is shown by the school, hospital and the model holdings started by him. His private charity was boundless, of which he himself would not have liked any one to speak. When the renovation of this church is completed, it will be another testimony of his liberality in the cause of religion.

“ Though as a Christian he was ever notable for his piety and ordered his life according to the strictest tenets of his church, he exhibited a broad-minded tolerance towards other religions so that both Hindus and Mahomedans all felt drawn to him and did not consider him a stranger to their creeds. He constantly endeavoured to demonstrate in his life how it was possible to combine extreme simplicity of life and a conservative adherence to all the good old customs and habits of his ancestors with the highest Western culture. An exemplary life lived so strenuously may have been preserved to enjoy a long period of repose in this world in which he could have observed the results of his good work and given us the benefit of his counsel and guidance. But God has willed it otherwise and taken him to give him the reward he has earned so well in the life to come.”

On the day following the funeral, the Residency flag remained hoisted half mast the whole day in honour of Mr. Thumboo Chetty's demise.

Thus ended the career of one of the greatest personages of Southern India, whose greatness was

purely self-acquired and who rose to eminence by sheer industry and integrity. By what a multitude of friends and connections and with what sentiments his loss was mourned will be evident from the host of condolatory telegrams and letters that poured in, a few of which are produced in the Appendix to this sketch, with a view to show the high and widespread esteem commanded by this worthy son of India, whose labours in and for Mysore are of monumental fame, never to be forgotten throughout posterity.

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APPENDIX A.

Condolatory Telegrams and Letters.

Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore—Mysore, 20th June 1907.—His Highness desires to express on behalf of Her Highness the Maharani, late Regent, and himself the very deep regret with which they have received the news of the death of your father, who was not only their valued friend, but a most distinguished and faithful servant of the State and of their family.

Mr. Maconochie, Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore—Mysore, 20th June 1907.—Deeply regret the news received this morning. Please accept my sincere sympathy with yourself and family.

Mr. M. Kantaraj Urs—Mysore, 20th June 1907.—Shocked to hear the dreadful news. My best sympathies to all the members of the family.

Mr. A. Basarappaji Urs—Mysore, 21st June 1907.—Extremely sorry at your father's lamentable death. Condolence to you in the sad bereavement.

Mr. K. S. Doraswamy Iyer—Mysore, 23rd June 1907.—Most grieved at the sad loss. Pray accept my deep sympathy and condolence.

Mr. C. Srikanthswara Iyer—Mysore, 23rd June 1907.—Deepest sympathy and condolence in your most sad bereavement.

Mr. L. D. Swamikannu Pillay—Madras, 21st June 1907.—Please accept heartfelt sympathies. *Requiescant.*

Mr. S. Venkatavaradiengar—Mysore, 20th June 1907.—Accept deep-felt condolence at the extremely sad death of your esteemed father.

Bishop of Mylapore—Tiruturaipundi, 23rd June 1907.—My deep and sincere condolences.

Mr. James Short—Madras, 21st June 1907.—Just heard bad news of your dear father's death. Accept my heartfelt sympathy and convey same to the other members of your family.

Mr. Amir Hasan—Saklespur, 23rd June 1907.—I sympathize heartily in your loss.

Mr. K. Chandy—Davangere, 22nd June 1907.—Accept my profound sympathy.

Mr. L. Gnanapragasam Mudaliar—Pondicherry, 20th June 1907.—Very sorry. Accept our condolences.

Mr. V. A. Parthasarady Mudaliar—Madras, 20th June 1907.—Distressing. Accept condolences. Lose not heart.

1, CARLTON HOUSE, TERRACE, S.W.,
17th September 1907.

DEAR SIR,

It was very good of you to communicate to me the sad death of your esteemed father whom I remember so well and who was a faithful and distinguished servant of the Mysore State.

With every good wish to yourself and your family.

I am,

Yours very faithfully,
CURZON.

'LANSDOWNE HOUSE,' BERKELEY SQUARE, W.,
18th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th June acquainting me of the lamented death of your father Raja Thumboo Chetty. I have heard of your loss with much regret, and desire to express my sympathy with yourself and other members of his family.

Yours truly,
LANSDOWNE.

9, CHELSEA EMBANKMENT, S.W.,
20th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am desired by Lord Ripon to express to you the feeling of regret with which he received your letter of the 21st June, and his sympathy for you in your bereavement.

Believe me,
Yours faithfully,
R. C. REID.

APPENDIX.

3

ENGLEMERE, ASCOT, BERKS,
19th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am very sorry to learn from your letter of the 26th June the sad news of the death of your distinguished father.

Please accept yourself and convey to your family the expression of my heartfelt sympathy in the loss which you and they have sustained.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

ROBERTS, F. M.

'NORFOLK HOUSE,' ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.,
16th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

Allow me to offer my sincere sympathy to you and your family in the sad loss of which you tell me. I am much grieved to hear of it

I remain,

Yours very faithfully,

NORFOLK.

20, JENNON GARDENS, S.W.,
22nd July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I desire to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st June informing me of the death of your father, the late Raja Dharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., and sincerely trust that the memory of the good he effected during his life may long survive him and be a source of consolation to those who are left to lament his loss.

Believe me,

Yours very faithfully,

CHAS. M. CLARKE,

General.

'AYLSTONE HILL,' HEREFORD,
28th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am truly sorry to receive your sad news. I offer my sincere sympathy to you and the family of the late Raja Dharma Pravina.

Yours truly,

WALTER LAWRENCE.

'THE RESIDENCY,' BANGALORE,
20th June 1907.

DEAR MR. ROYALOO CHETTY,

It is with very great regret that I have just heard of the death of your father Mr. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., in whom the Mysore State has lost a most distinguished public servant and I myself a valued friend. I trust that you will allow me to offer to yourself and your family my sincere sympathy in your bereavement.

Yours sincerely,
A. WILLIAMS.

17, REDCLIFFE SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.,
26th September 1907.

DEAR MR. ROYALOO CHETTY,

Thank you for your letter received by last mail, in which you communicate to me the sad intelligence of the death of your father, Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E. It is with the sincerest regret that I have heard of his passing away, and I beg that you will accept my warmest sympathy and condolences in the great bereavement which you and your family have suffered by his loss. Your father was one of my oldest and most valued friends in Mysore, and his great knowledge of the State which he had served for a lifetime in varied capacities made him a valued visitor at all times at the Residency, and my predecessors, no less than myself, fully appreciated the high character which lent so much weight to his opinions. When last I saw Mr. Thumboo Chetty, he bore his years as lightly as ever, and it is a shock to know that his many-sided activities are lost to the community, all sections of which, European, Christian and Hindu, honoured and respected him alike. His example and reputation will, I am sure, be an incentive to his sons, of whom I am glad to know you and others are continuing the family tradition in the service of the Mysore State.

Yours very truly,
S. M. FRASER.

'GOODREST,' READING, BERKSHIRE,
16th July 1907.

DEAR MR. ROYALOO CHETTY,

I was deeply distressed by the sad news conveyed in your letter which reached me this morning. Your father was the last friend who knew me in my early days, and I must be almost the only man

living who knew him in his student days before he entered upon that meteoric career which so swiftly and surely bore him from the position of a clerk in a Government office to the very steps of the throne in his own native country. It has always been one of my greatest pleasures to feel that I was associated with him in his early struggles towards success, but he obtained no reward which he had not earned and deserved. He was the best public servant I ever met. His quickness in grasping what was wanted was only equalled by his industry and acuteness in carrying it out. He could always be relied on, for his only aim was to do his very best. He has served his country nobly during life, and he will continue to serve it by his example. I have lost in him a friend for whom I felt the deepest respect and affection and whom I can never replace. The loss to you and all his family is irreparable and unspeakable, but as time goes on it will be softened by the halo which his character and name will shed round all who belonged to him.

Pray accept for yourself and all the members of your family the expression of my deep and most sincere sympathy, and believe me to be,

Yours very truly,

JOHN D. MAYNE.

INDIA OFFICE, WHITEHALL, S.W.

16th July 1907.

DEAR MR. CHETTY,

Although the bad news which your letter brings me was not unexpected, I feel none the less the heavy blow which has fallen upon your family, and the loss which public life in India has sustained from the death of your father. He was a colleague who inspired his fellow workers in the public service with his own remarkable intelligence, moral courage and singleness of high purpose. In private life he set an example of high principle, and devotion to religion and morality which will continue to work after his death. Please convey to those of his family whom we knew our deep sympathy in their trial, and our prayers that all things have worked and may work to good.

Yours very truly,

W. LEE-WARNER.

'MERIDEN,' BATH,
17th July 1907.

DEAR MR. ROYALOO CHETTY,

Your letter with its sad announcement has just reached me. When I wrote to you on the 18th June, I little thought that your father's death, which it seems took place on the following day, would have followed so quickly ; but I could not but feel very apprehensive as to the result, for I know how fatal that malady is. His death will be felt in Mysore as a public loss, and to his own family the event must be a terrible blow.

Please convey to the widow and members of the family Mrs. Clarke's and my deep sympathy with them in their great sorrow. Mr. Thumboo Chetty was a valued friend and colleague of mine for many years, and I find it difficult to realize that his letters which were so welcome can no longer be looked for. Believe me,

Your sincere friend for your father's sake,
TREDWAY CLARKE.

'WOODLANDS,' TORQUAY,
15th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I read in the papers last week with the greatest regret and sympathy a notice of the death of your excellent father for whom I had a sincere respect founded on his high moral character and his unblemished official career. He was an example to all Native Christians and worthy of imitation. May God give you comfort in your affliction.

I fear that the scandalous failure of Arbuthnot & Co. may have had a depressing effect upon him. Believe me,

Yours very truly,
LEWIN BOWRING.

'OAK LEA', SILVERHILL,
ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA,
1st August 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

I am indeed much concerned to hear of the death of my old friend your father Raja Dharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., for whom I had a great regard from the time I became

acquainted with him in Bangalore. Pray accept and communicate to the other members of his family my very sincere condolences. I pray that you may be consoled in this sore bereavement by the blessed hope which is the Christian's special privilege and inheritance, and that many of his friends may be led by his example to appropriate the Christian's faith and salvation, and follow the Saviour with all their heart.

Believe me,

Dear Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

W. M. YOUNG.

'QUEEN ANNE'S MANSIONS,' WESTMINSTER, S.W.,
18th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am grieved to learn of the decease of my very old friend your father Raja Dharma Pravina T.R. A. Thumboo Chetty. He was one of whom you cannot but be justly proud as a public servant of unimpeachable probity and high worth and for whom you must entertain an undying affection. I offer my heartfelt sympathy with your sorrow.

I am, yours very truly,

W. J. CUNINGHAM.

QUEEN'S GATE GARDENS, S.W.,
24th July 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

Your letter of the 21st ultimo has been forwarded to me, and I write to say with what sorrow I have received the sad news it contains. I was only a short time in Mysore, and it was many years ago, but I well remember the high estimation in which your father, then a Judge of the High Court, was held by all, and I have watched his career since then with much interest. The loss to the people of Mysore and to its ruler is a truly great one, and I feel that I myself have lost an old and much respected friend; but what is our loss compared with that sustained by you and your family. Believe me I sympathize deeply with you.

I presume you are in the service of His Highness, and I trust you are getting on well. With my kind regards and best wishes for you and the family,

I remain,

My dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

D. FITZPATRICK.

'STATENBOROUGH,' EASTRY, S.O., KENT,
15th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

Your letter reached me to-day. I much regret the death of your highly respected father, and ask you and the rest of your family to accept my sincere condolences. I always found him a loyal well-wisher of the Mysore State and of the British Empire.

I am,

Yours truly,

J. B. LYALL.

'FERNWOOD,' WIMBLEDON PARK, S.W.,
18th July 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

I have received with regret the information you sent me of the death of your honoured and respected father. Mr. Thumboo Chetty held an important office during the famine of 1877-8, and when I was in the Province as Famine Commissioner I was indebted to him for much assistance and our relations were friendly. Since then I have not followed his career closely, and do not remember to what dignity he rose, nor when he retired from the service, which was probably some years ago. I can assure you and his family of my sincere sympathy and regret for his death.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C. A. ELLIOTT.

ROYAL STATION HOTEL, YORK,
16th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am passing through here and have received the very sad news of the death of your father. He was a very old friend of mine, and I am sure that no one recognized more clearly than I did his honesty of purpose, his ability and the good life he led. I hope his affairs are left in good order, and that his family may live long and perpetuate the excellent name which Mr. Thumboo Chetty enjoyed.

Yours truly,

DONALD ROBERTSON.

' WESTLANDS, ' LIPHOOK, HANTS,
16th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

Before I received your letter of the 21st June I had noticed in the *Pioneer Mail* the announcement of your excellent father's death, and I greatly regretted it.

I have the most pleasant recollections of him, and can honestly say that he was always a welcome visitor, full of sage opinion, ripe experience and friendly feelings for all men. I was always glad to see him and have a talk with him.

Pray accept the sincere condolences of Lady Bourdillon and myself and

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

J. A. BOURDILLON.

44, LEAMINGTON ROAD VILLAS,
WESTBOURNE PARK, W.,

19th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am sorry to learn from your letter of 21st ultimo (which I received yesterday) of the death of your esteemed father. You and the other members of your family have the satisfaction of knowing that your father's services to the Mysore State were appreciated and rewarded.

Sympathising with you in your loss,

I remain,

Yours very truly,

J. W. BEST.

BISHOP'S PALACE, OPORTO,
25th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am directed by His Lordship the Bishop of Oporto to write to you acknowledging the receipt of your kind letter dated 21st June last in which you communicate to His Lordship the sad intelligence of the death of your dear father Raja Dharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E. His Lordship sends to you and family his heartfelt sympathies in your affliction and distress, and His Lordship has already offered up the holy sacrifice of mass for the repose of the soul of your dear father, who must have already received the reward of his good deeds and wishes.

Yours very faithfully,

JOAQUIM NUNES.

'HAWTHORNDEN', GUILDFORD,
11th August 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I received with feelings of deep regret the letter in which you inform me of the death of your respected father. Be assured of my sympathy with you and his many friends in your sorrow.

I feel gratified that you should write to me on this occasion, for it shows that you understand that I have always regarded your father as a friend and comrade during the long years in which we have served together the State of Mysore.

Believe me to be,

Dear Sir,

Yours truly,

J. A. CAMPBELL.

HANNAFORE, LOOE, CORNWALL,
24th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I was very sorry to receive the intelligence conveyed in your letter of the 21st June. Your father was so distinguished both in public and private life for his high character and consistent career that I can quite understand how irreparable his loss must seem to his family. We all offer you sincere condolences on this great bereavement. Assuring you of our sympathy in this affliction.

I am,

Yours very truly,

L. RICE.

40, AVENUE HIPPODROM, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM,
14th August 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I have to thank you for your touching letter dated 21st June last communicating the sad news of your distinguished father's death. I had previously seen an announcement of the event in the newspapers. I can assure you and the members of your family of my deepest sympathy in your great and irreparable loss. His services in the Mysore State were great, and his death will, I feel sure, ever be mourned by His Highness the Maharaja and by the people of Mysore whom he served so well. Personally I cherish a grateful recollection of his great kindness, considerateness and courtesy

towards myself when in the Mysore Service, and more especially at the time when I was leaving. Although to his family the loss must be irreparable, you have at least the alleviating consciousness that he died full of years and of well deserved honours (having done his duty in life pre-eminently well) and with an earnest belief in the consoling faith of which he was a devoted adherent.

Assuring you again of my deep sympathy and of my sincere wishes for the consolation and welfare of yourself and of all the members of the deceased's bereaved family.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

T. WEIR, I.C.S.

P.S.—I should not forget to say that owing to my absence from home, travelling, your letter only reached me comparatively recently.

T. W.

16, CHARING CROSS, LONDON,

19th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I thank you very much for so kindly writing to inform me of your father's death. I received the news with the deepest regret as I had the greatest regard and respect for him, and I sympathise deeply with you and your family in your affliction. I always looked upon your father and Sir Sheshadri Iyer as the greatest friends I had in the Mysore Government.

Yours truly,

D. MCNEILL CAMPBELL.

18, MURRAYFIELD DRIVE,

MURRAYFIELD, MIDLOTHIAN, N.B.,

1st August 1907.

DEAR SIR.

I have received your letter of the 21st June and thank you much for writing to me.

The information contained in your letter was *most* unpleasant, and the very sad news of my old and valued friend's (your good father) death was a very painful surprise. I am indeed most sorry, and I offer to you and your mother my deep sympathy. Having no

idea of your poor father's illness (you say in your letter he was ill for nearly two months), the sad intelligence you conveyed to me came as a shock. I knew I could not hope to see my good friend again, as our homes were so very wide apart, but I had the hope of at least exchanging letters once a year, at Christmas, in which we confirmed the mutual good and kindly feeling for one another.

I know well you must feel his loss greatly, and for a long time his vacant chair will cause great regret to you and others outside 'Rugby Hall.'

Asking you to kindly convey to your mother my friendly sympathy and to accept such yourself.

Believe me,

Dear Sir,

Yours sincerely,

E. HEWETSON.

'BURGO PARK,' BRIDGE OF ALLAN, SCOTLAND,
17th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,

As you are perhaps aware Dr. Miller is unable to write letters for himself now, and as I am in the habit of writing his letters for him, he wishes me to thank you for your letter to him of June 21st. It is with great sorrow that he has learnt of the death of your lamented father and wishes to express his deepest sympathy with you in your great bereavement.

He appreciates much your kindness in writing to him as you have done, and in remembering his connection with your late father.

Yours sincerely,

KENNETH I. MACIVER.

YERCAUD,

21st June 1907.

SIR,

I regret very much to hear of your good father's death. I will give him a memento at the altar. I offer my condolences to his bereaved family. **R.I.P.**

Yours sincerely,

✠ J. COLGAN.

THE MANOR, SIMLA,
28th June 1907.

DEAR MR. CHETTY,

We were grieved to know of the death of your distinguished father, and write this to sympathise with you all in your sad bereavement. Your father was well known and did great service, and I hope you will try to follow in his footsteps. He is indeed a great loss, not only to you all, but to the Christian community. Our best course is to resign to His will Who knows and does what is best for us.

Again sympathising with you in your sorrow.

Believe me,
Yours truly,
HARNAM SINGH.

COIMBATORE,
22nd. June 1907.

MY DEAR AND AFFLICTED FRIEND,

I am sorry to hear that the noble and pious man who was your father and my friend has departed from us and that we shall not see again his face in this world; but *Beati qui moriuntur in Domino*. Let us, therefore, thank the Divine Providence for this supreme consolation. Amongst so many temporal and spiritual gifts he had received, the most precious was his strong Catholic faith which will be his eternal joy and yours, because, I trust, it will remain alive in you all. Be assured, my dear friend, that I pray for his soul; it is a duty of gratitude, and for you all, especially for your pious and sorely afflicted mother. With my compassionate sentiments.

I am, dear Royaloo,

Yours very sincerely,

✠ AUGUSTIN ROY,
Bishop of Coimbatore.

BISHOP'S HOUSE, KUMBAKONAM,
25th June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I was very sorry indeed to hear of the great loss your family sustained by the death of your beloved father Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., and you are quite right in thinking that, in his death, you have lost one who was the stay and ornament of your family. Yes, the regretted Raja Dharma Pravina

was that, and more than that ; for he had the honour to be the ornament of the Holy Church itself. Your father has been great in talent, fortune, influence and power. But I know he never inordinately prided himself on all that, while he wisely gloried in his title of Christian, and he remained all his life a faithful servant of God and the Holy Church. For this I admire him with all my heart.

Please present my respects to your mother ; tell her I do sincerely offer her my condolences ; that I bless her and those who are dear to her ; and that I pray, and will long time pray, for the rest of the soul of her consort Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E.

Yours very truly in Jesus Christ,

✠ L. M. BOTTERO,

Bishop of Kumbakonam.

MADRAS, 21st June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

Accept my feelings of deep sympathy with the lamentable death of your dear father Raja Dharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E.

No doubt I will remember the dearly departed in my prayers as well as those whom he has left behind. With all I condole in the bereavement of such a great member of their family.

Believe me, Yours sincerely in Christ,

✠ J. AELEN.

QUILON, 24th June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

Your esteemed father died on the feast of my holy Patron, and I shall yearly remember him in my prayers, which I shall not fail to offer also now for him who has been a true ornament of our Holy Church in India. Kindly accept the expression of sincerest sympathy for yourself and for your dear mother. May our Lord help and console. The good father will continue in Heaven to protect his beloved family until one day all will be united again for ever.

Yours very sincerely,

✠ A. M. BENZIGER,

Bishop of Quilon.

RAMNAD,

27th June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am glad to let you know that his Lordship J. M. Barthe, S.J., Bishop of Trichinopoly, has prayed and will pray for the soul of your beloved and honoured father. He willingly sends his blessings to your dear mother and to all the members of your family in their bereavement.

Yours devotedly in our Lord,

R. GAMON, S.J.,

His Lordship's Secretary.

BISHOP'S HOUSE, ERNAKULAM,
23rd June 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

It is with extreme regret that I have learned from your letter the sad news of the death of my esteemed friend, your father. I hasten to offer your dear mother and the rest of your family my sincere condolence in your irreparable bereavement, and assure you of my special prayers and mementos in Mass for the soul of your departed father.

The death of Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., is not a mere family loss nor even a territorial one. I reckon it a national one. We, the Indian Catholics, have lost in him a pillar of our community. The gap cannot be easily filled.

May God Almighty reward him for all his numerous good works and charity towards the poor of Christ.

With my best blessings to your dear mother and the rest of your family.

I am,

Yours sincerely in Jesus Christ,

✠ ALOYSIUS PAREPARAMBIL,

Bishop and Vicar Apostolic of Ernakulam.

TRICHUR,

25th June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I received your letter of the 21st instant conveying to me the sad intelligence of the death of your esteemed father. I had known him by report before, by the fame of his many sterling Christian virtues and his remarkable political career. But afterwards I had the pleasure of meeting him at Bangalore where I had gone over on

the occasion of the last Eucharistic Congress, and then he very kindly invited us, the Native Bishops, to his home ; but some circumstances prevented us from accepting his kind invitation. I am sure the Catholic community of Bangalore has lost a valuable member and an ornament by his death, and I am sorry for the loss on account of you and them. But death is a tribute of our nature as well as a penalty of sin. But death in the case of the honoured Mr. Thumboo Chettiar, your beloved father, carries with it many alleviating accidents. I mean his ripe age, so to say, and the many Christian virtues he had cultivated and spiritual helps, as he died fortified by the holy rites of the Catholic Church. I hope and believe that he has entered into his rest in the bosom of his Saviour.

I condole with your mother, with you and all the members of your bereaved family for the great loss you sustained, and I promise to remember him in my prayers and impart my blessings to you all. Moreover, I promise to celebrate one Mass for the repose of his soul, in view of the acquaintance I had with him and his many endearing traits of character.

I remain, dear Sir,

Ever truly yours,

✠ J. MENACHERY,

Vicar Apostolic of Trichur.

—————
MYSORE,

24th June 1907.

MY DEAR ROYALOO CHETTY,

It was with feelings of deep regret I heard of the death of your father, and my valued friend, Mr. Thumboo Chettiar. My acquaintance with him dated almost from the commencement of my career in Mysore, and I was intimately associated with him in the later years of his life. His value as a moral force in the State and on public life was incalculable. Even in his retirement he continued to be a counsellor and guide to the State, and his advice was sought and welcomed by all those who had the welfare of the country at heart. His death is a great loss to the Indian community and to me personally.

Kindly convey my sincere sympathy to your respected mother and to the other members of the family.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

V. P. MADHAVA RAO.

MERCARA,
23rd June 1907.

MY DEAR MR. ROYALOO CHETTY,

It was really a shock to me to hear suddenly of the death of your worthy father, in as much as I was not prepared to receive the sad news, nor had heard of his illness.

The State has lost in him an able and safe adviser, and none would miss him more than His Highness the Maharajah. As for my humbleself, it is difficult for me to express my sorrow on account of the sad calamity which I consider personal rather than otherwise. Our acquaintance extends over 32 years, and during this long period I was treated more as a member of the family than a stranger. I invariably sought his advice and guidance, and he ungrudgingly helped me in this respect. How I wish his life had been spared for a few more years.

Your worthy father was called away at the ripe age of 70 years and after a distinguished career of nearly half a century. He died full of honours, and had also the satisfaction of seeing all his children well provided for. Until a man dies, nobody can be said to be happy; but in the case of your lamented father there is no denying the fact that he led a happy life. His loss is irreparable, and we all wish that God had spared his life a little longer.

I sincerely pray that God will grant you all sufficient courage to bear the affliction, and with my heartfelt sympathy,

I remain,
Yours very sincerely,
C. MADIAH.

MYSORE,
21st June 1907.

DEAR MR. ROYALOO CHETTY,

I was deeply grieved to hear of the death of your respected father, and I feel that I have lost a personal friend for whom I entertained the highest regard and respect. His lofty character and his long and distinguished services to the State won him a unique position in the eyes of the public, and his demise is nothing short of a calamity to the State. I beg you to accept my sincere condolence and sympathy in this bereavement and to convey the

same to the other members of the family. I very much regret that, owing to my absence at Mysore, I was not able to pay my last respects to my dear departed friend. But my heart was with him I assure you.

Yours sincerely,
K. P. PUTTANNA CHETTY.

KUMBAKONAM,
22nd June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your note conveying the news of the demise of my old friend and your father Raja Dharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E. His soul will be happy in another world also. It is we that have been made helpless and deprived of the society and advice of a truly worthy servant of God. Kindly convey my heartfelt condolences to his family and accept them yourself.

Yours sincerely,
R. RAGOONATHA RAO.

BARGUVI, SAKLESPUR,
29th June 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

I am very grateful to you for your kindness in sending me the sad intelligence of your father's demise. I appreciate your kindness all the more as you have written when you were overwhelmed with sorrow for the heavy bereavement which you have so recently experienced.

Believe me, I am truly grieved to hear of your affliction and hasten to convey to you a most sincere expression of my condolence.

This Province has lost one of its truest good wishers, one whose name will ever be remembered among the associations of the past, whose fame as an illustrious Statesman, as an eminent Judge and as a most kind and courteous nobleman will ever be cherished with respectful admiration.

All who, like myself, had the honour of his friendship will mourn his loss and will always regard him as worthy of reverence as a typical example of what innate wisdom, benevolence and integrity,

associated with the profound study of human character, can effect in a long life of devotion to the public service.

Tendering you and the members of your family my heartfelt sympathy.

I am,
My dear Sir,
Yours sincerely,
GRAHAM ANDERSON.

MONT-DE-VERE, OOTACAMUND,
23rd June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I was exceedingly sorry to learn from your letter the unhappy news of the death of your respected father. He was an ornament of the community. In his death we have sustained an irreparable loss.

I offer my sincere condolence to self and other members of the family in this sad bereavement.

In deep sympathy.

Yours very sincerely,
C. RAMACHENDRA RAO SAHEB.

CHINTADRI PET,
22nd June 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

I am extremely grieved to hear of the death of your venerable father. It is a great loss to Mysore and to all classes of the community. He was the best type of a native gentleman I have come across with, and he set an example both in his public and private life which very few could lay claim to. I wish he had been spared a few years more, but God knows what is best for us, and I hope you and your brothers and sisters and your good old mother will try to bear this great calamity with resignation.

With my heartfelt sympathy to one and all,

I am,
Yours truly,
P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR.

49 PYCROFT'S ROAD, ROYAPETT,
MADRAS, 25th June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

Yours of the 21st instant to hand. I was very sorry indeed, to hear of the demise of your revered father and an esteemed personal friend of mine. I read an account of his death and funeral obsequies in the local papers long before I received your letter. It is, no doubt, a sad blow, but we ought to bear it with patience and fortitude. His death is not only an irreparable loss to yourself and family, but a loss to the whole Native Christian community at large. With feelings of sincere regret, I sympathise with you and family in the affliction.

I remain,
Yours sincerely,
SULTAN MOHIDIN.

ADYAR HOUSE,
22nd June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

It is with very great regret that I have learnt of your father's death. Please accept my sincere condolences.

Yours sincerely,
E. S. LLOYD.

ANANTHA VILAS, TRIPPLICANE,
21st June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I am extremely sorry to learn from your letter of yesterday that Raja Dharma Pravina Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar. C.I.E., died on the 19th instant. In his death, not only you and the members of your family, but also the whole of India have sustained an irreparable loss. At this juncture, India is in need of gentlemen of the deceased's high character and undoubted loyalty, who alone could manage to restore good feelings between the Natives and Europeans. When I last saw him at Madras, he appeared to me to have a very long lease of life. God's ways are unfathomable. I offer you and all the members of your family my sincere condolence on the sad bereavement you have sustained in the death of your venerable, most respected and rightminded father.

With best regards.

Yours sincerely,
K. KRISHNASWAMY RAO.

CENTRAL COLLEGE HOUSE, BANGALORE,

21st June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

It was with the deepest sorrow that Mrs. Cook and I learned of the death of your universally esteemed and loved father, and I beg that you may express to Mrs. Thumboo Chettiar and all the other members of the family, our united sympathy in your great bereavement. Many have been the kind letters I have received from him while filling the highest offices in the Mysore Government, and I cannot refrain from expressing to you that I shall always bear him in fond remembrance as a gentleman of the greatest courtesy and goodness of soul. I little thought when last I saw and spoke to him that he was so soon to be taken from our midst. Again assuring you and all the other members of the family of the united sympathy of Mrs. Cook and myself.

I am,
Yours sincerely,
J. COOK.

MYSORE,
26th June 1907.

MY DEAR MR. ROYALOO CHETTY,

I am extremely sorry that your venerable and much respected father is no more! It is impossible to express the feelings of grief which the news has caused and the void which it has created. Had the Almighty been pleased to spare his life for some time longer, it would have been comfortable to Mysore. But God's will must be done. I hope you will bear this irreparable calamity with fortitude, and kindly convey my profound feelings of sympathy to your brothers and other members of your family.

I am so sorry I could not attend the funeral as I had to come away here.

Yours sincerely,
D. DEVARAJ URS.

ANANDASRAMAM, CHAMARAJ MOHALLA,
MYSORE, 24th June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I was exceedingly grieved to hear of your father's death. When I saw him a little while ago on the occasion of your brother's marriage, he did not appear to me so near his end.

I have known the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty for upwards of 35 years, and the advancing years only increased my respect and esteem for him. I believe he also reciprocated the same feelings towards me. I did not rush to you with the usual common places, as I know that when the sense of void caused by such a loss is fresh, it is best to leave the healing to time. But I assure you that my sympathy for yourself and family is none the less hearty and sincere.

Will you kindly convey my condolences to your respected mother and receive the same for yourself and brothers,

Believe me,

Yours truly,

V. N. NARASIM IYENGAR.

AMBASAMUDRAM,
TINNEVELLY DISTRICT,
24th June 1907.

MY DEAR RAJARATHNA MUDALIAR,

The *Indian Patriot* newspaper of Friday brought me the sad tidings of the death of Mr. Thumboo Chettiar. I feel as if I have lost a brother and Bangalore has lost its charms for me. Some of the happiest years of my life were the years when we worked together in the Chief Court. Such was his wonderful energy and industry that I found it difficult to keep pace with him, although I was only 35 years old when I was appointed Judge and he was verging on 50. May his soul rest in peace. Kindly inform his sons that I deeply sympathise with them in the sad bereavement.

* * * *

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

A. RAMACHENDRA IYER.

PUDUKOTTAI,
28th June 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

I can well imagine how deep your sorrow must be for the calamity that has befallen you, as last year God placed me in a similar predicament. The loss of a father, even if he does not possess any virtues or greatness is the greatest calamity in a man's life. But

when a father of the type of the late Raja Dharma Pravina T.R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., passes away, no wonder that his family is thrown into a sea of sorrow. Your illustrious father led such a life of purity and eminence that he had a large circle of admirers both in and out of Mysore. I am one of his admirers and feel his loss quite as much as yourself. I trust that God will give you and the other members of your family sufficient strength to get over this shock.

I remain,
My Dear Sir,
Yours sincerely,
S. VENKATARAMADAS NAIDU.

BANGALORE,

20th June 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

It grieved me very much to hear of the death of your venerable old father. No doubt he died in fulness of years and saw all his children settled in life. He had done his charitable and religious work with a scrupulousness which was worthy of emulation, but which few can do as he did. He was beloved of God and has his place by His side. All his children are treading faithfully in his footsteps and keeping up the traditions of the family. The void created, however, cannot be filled up by any means, and it will be hard task for you all to console your old mother. You have in your great grief the sincere sympathy of a wide circle of friends in which I am proud to occupy a corner. I beg you will bear up and resign yourself to the will of the Almighty and most merciful God.

I am, yours sincerely,
M. S. NARAYANA RAO.

MADRAS,

22nd June 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

I am deeply grieved at the death of your father. I was anxiously enquiring of friends about the state of his health, and I am very sorry that he has not recovered. His death must be a great bereavement to you all. Your mother has to be particularly consoled at this time. Besides your consoling her I request you to convey to her my deep condolence, and I hope that you all will have sufficient consolation from on high in your present affliction.

Yours very sincerely,
S. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR.

10, INFANTRY ROAD,
BANGALORE, *June 24th, 1907.*

DEAR SIR,

Allow me to express my deep sympathy with you and your family in the loss you have sustained by the decease of your dear father.

I was present at the funeral on Thursday last, where was manifested such a marked respect for the deceased. I am sure it must be a great comfort to you all to realise that so useful a life was crowned by such a public tribute.

I pray that Almighty God may sustain you all in this time of sorrow.

I am,
Yours, with all sympathy,
C. H. YATES.

THOTTAKKADU HOUSE,
POONAMALLEE ROAD,
MADRAS, *21st June 1907.*

DEAR SIR,

The announcement last night in the *Madras Mail* of the sad news came as a sudden shock to us. Your last letter to me gave me hopes of recovery from the illness with which your father was attacked. I received your letter this morning, and I can only say that I have no words at my command to express the grief I feel. The late Mr. Thumboo Chettiar was a true and a good and a great man, and it would be very difficult to find another like him. I shall only conclude by quoting the concluding portion of the speech which he delivered immediately after Mr. Runga Charlu died:—

“Were it possible, at this moment, to make the lamented deceased hear, I would say to him in the words of the poet: ‘Thou art a monument without a tomb, And art alive still, while thy writings live. And we have wits to read and praise to give.’

How aptly these words represent the late Mr. Thumboo Chettiar’s services, it is not for me to write. But one request I wish to make to you and the rest of his family. Please do not take this to heart. It is God’s work, and perhaps He has meant it in good for you and all the rest of his people.

Yours very sincerely,
T. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI.

MADRAS,
June 24th, 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I received with much grief the melancholy news of the death of your poor father. He was one of my oldest acquaintances and was known to me for almost a half of a century. Pray accept my deepest sympathies in your sad bereavement and convey them to the rest of your family.

• With my kind regards,

Yours truly,
P. RAMASAWMY CHETTY.

ILVAL ROAD, MYSORE,
30th June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I was very sorry, as indeed every one that knew him must have been, to hear of the death of your esteemed father. He had laboured during the best part of his life for the good of the Mysore State, and established a name for justice and promptness. Though he was old I had hopes that he would live to a ripe old age. But the will of God has been otherwise ; and the only consolation is that he has left behind him sons who are sure to maintain his reputation.

With much sympathy.

I remain,
Yours very truly,
T. R. VENKETASAWMY NAIDU.

1, SOUTH PARADE, BANGALORE,
20th June 1907.

DEAR MR. ROYALOO CHETTY,

It is with the greatest grief I just heard of the death of your much esteemed father. It must be a great blow to you and yours, and you have all our warmest and sincere sympathy in this your irreparable loss. May the great God give you strength to bear your heavy loss.

Yours, in sympathy,
WALTER ABRAHAM.

BANGALORE CITY,

20th June 1907.

DEAR MR. ROYALOO CHETTY,

I have heard with the deepest sorrow of the death of your honoured father. He was a man whom I held in the highest esteem, both for his character and his ability.

Permit me to express to you and all the members of your family my sympathy in your great bereavement.

I have an important engagement at 6-30 p.m., otherwise I should certainly have joined the funeral procession, and thus paid my last respects to the remains of my friend.

I remain,

Yours, in true sympathy,

D. A. REES.

"THE PRESBYTERY",

CHEVOOR, OORAKAM,

5th July 1907.

DEAR FRIEND IN JESUS,

The sad news of your dear father's departure from this life has greatly pained me.

Though I had read much about the sterling qualities of the heart and mind of the late Raja Dharmia Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., it was when I came to Bangalore that I made the personal acquaintance of your good father. How I was struck with the suavity of his manners and his genuine charity is fresh in my mind.

Last Christmas he wrote to me that he and his family were doing well. I was even entertaining an idea of visiting Bangalore again, when I hoped once more to renew our friendship. Your father's death is an unexpected blow to me. His memory has always a warm place in my heart, while his photo, occupies a prominent place in my residence. Man proposes and God disposes.

If his death is such a heavy blow to me, I am not unconscious how much more heavy it would be to your noble mother and to you all, his dear children. It must teach us one thing. What a fleeting thing is this life, and how short-lived are its pleasures? We hold them one hour and the next they are vanished. If we had not eternity before us, we might well rebel against our earthly state. The consolations that men have to offer to assuage the agony of a

grief like yours, are at once vain and fruitless. God alone is the Master and Consoler of hearts. He only can comfort loving trustful souls. The words which He whispers to the afflicted heart that has recourse to Him are sweeter than honey, more healing than most precious ointment.

When I saw your beloved father, he told me that he was spending the remainder of his life for God and eternity. It is indeed a relief to go to the loving Lord to receive his eternal rewards, after a life so well spent for the service of God and fellow-brethren. Sweet is the memory of the departed worth.

So, while we live, let us pray for the eternal rest of your good father's soul and strive to imitate those noble virtues which best shone in him.

Let me offer you once more the assurance of my sincerest condolences and of my prayers for the dear departed soul.

A sympathising friend of your late good father,

J. MENACHERY,

BOMBAY,

25th June 1907.

DEAR MRS. THUMBOO CHETTIAR,

Soon after my return from Europe I learnt with much regret that my dear friend Mr. Thumboo Chettiar is no more! I was looking forward to meet him in Bangalore in July. It is a bitter disappointment to me.

May God be gracious to you and your dear children and give you the comforts you need.

Yours sincerely,

J. P. COTELINGAM.

OOTACAMUND,

23rd June 1907.

DEAR SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant. His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar was extremely grieved to hear the sad news of the death of your father Raja Dharma Pravina Thumboo Chettiar. His Highness has already read about it in the papers. He desires me to convey to you his deep sympathy and hearty condolences.

L. N. LIMEYE,

Assistant Secretary to H. H.

The Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda.

BISHOP'S HOUSE,

CHANGANACHERRY,

25th June 1907.

MY DEAR SIR,

Your letter announcing the sad news of your beloved father's death duly to hand. Offering up my special prayers on behalf of his soul to the merciful Father above, I implore His mercy to grant him a place of eternal rest and happiness.

In him I deplore not only the loss of the stay and ornament of your family, but also a distinguished able minister of the State, a conscientious discharger of his duty and a true lover of equity and justice. All the Catholics of India have lost a brother of whose high endowments and station they glory themselves. Amidst these various distressing considerations one thing of great consolation appears, and that one is a real consolation for a true Catholic, that he died well fortified with the rites of the Church. God in His great mercy has granted us this consolation, and let us ever show ourselves grateful for this inestimable favour.

Finally blessing you all, especially your widowed and afflicted mother, in our Lord,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

✠ MATHEW MAKIL,

Bishop & Vicar Apostolic of Changanacherry.

ROMA,

16th Luglio 1907.

ILLUSTRISSIMO SIGNORE,

Ho appreso con profondo dispiacere la morte del suo venerato genitore; e però di gran conforto la memoria della sue virtù e il pensiero che egli a chinso la sua vita coi Sacramenti della Chiesa. Informerò sua santità di questa grande perdita e il S. Padre invierà alla sua famiglia la benedizione. Voglia credermi sempre.

Devotissimo per servirla,

✠ A. CARDINAL AGLIARDI.

APPENDIX B.

"THE MADRAS MAIL"—BANGALORE, *20th June 1907*.—I regret to announce the death, at his residence, 'Rugby Hall', to-day from diabetes, of Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., late Officiating Dewan of Mysore. The deceased gentleman had been suffering for some time from carbuncle and diabetes and was in a dangerous condition yesterday; he died at two o'clock this morning. The late Mr. Thumboo Chetty began his official career in December 1855 as a clerk in the Quarter-master General's Office, Madras, and served as Manager in the Legislative Department, Madras, in the early sixties, under Mr. J. D. Mayne. He joined the Mysore Service in 1867 as Head Sheristadar of the Judicial Commissioner's Court and gradually rose in the service. He was appointed Chief Judge in May 1884 and frequently acted as Dewan of Mysore. He retired in March 1901, after forty-six years' service, and since then has been living in retirement. He was seventy years of age at his death.—(*By Telegram.*)

"THE DAILY POST."—*20th June 1907*.—We greatly regret to announce the death, at 2 o'clock this morning, at his residence 'Rugby Hall', Promenade Road, of Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., late Officiating Dewan of Mysore. The late Mr. Thumboo Chetty had been suffering for some time past from diabetes and carbuncle, and yesterday his condition took a turn for the worse, the end coming in the early hours of this morning. To trace the history of the services of this well known and much esteemed gentleman, one has to go back to the middle of the last century. He was born in April of the year of the late Queen Victoria's accession to the British Throne, and commenced his official life at the early age of 18. He first entered the service of the Madras Government in the Military Department, joining the office of the Quarter-master General on 10th December 1855 as a clerk. In February 1862 he was appointed Manager of the Legislative Department, Madras Government Secretariat at the time when Mr. J. D. Mayne, the eminent lawyer and legal author was Secretary, and it was in his connection with this great legal luminary that the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty gained so

much of the legal acumen that stood him in good stead in his brilliant judicial career in later years of his service. He commenced his practice of the law in June 1866, when he was made District Munsiff of Purghy (Bellary), but in the following year, on the 1st February, he joined the Mysore Service as Head Sheristadar, Judicial Commissioner's Court. In 1868 he acted as 2nd Judge of the Mysore Court of Small Causes and Registrar-General. He filled various judicial appointments up to October 1873, when in October of that year he was appointed an Assistant Commissioner of the 5th class, and gradually rose in that branch of the service till in May 1877, he was filling the post of Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore and Coorg, and just a year later he was promoted as District and Sessions Judge of the Nandidroog Division. On the Rendition in 1881, he was nominated Senior *ex-officio* member of H. H. the Maharaja's Council, an appointment he filled with great distinction. His judicial capabilities were thought so much of, that in March 1884 he was appointed Chief Judge of the Mysore Chief Court, and it was in this capacity that he earned a great name for himself as a sound lawyer and a wise and level-headed Judge. This appointment he held with great credit till February 1895 only leaving the Bench at short intervals to act in the distinguished position of Dewan of the State. He acted as the Chief Minister of the State in the absence on leave of the late Sir K. Seshadri Iyer in 1887, 1890, 1892 and 1893 and won golden opinions in his administration of affairs in this difficult position. In July 1895 the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty was rewarded by the Government of India for his excellent record of service with a Companionship of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, and on the 28th January 1900 he became the First Member of H. H. the Maharaja's Council, and in August of the same year again officiated as Dewan of Mysore and on the 18th March 1901, after a service of 12 years with the Government of Madras and 34 years of strenuous and distinguished service with the Mysore Government, retired from the field of public affairs. Since then he had been living in comparative retirement, seldom appearing before the public. During his long connection with the Mysore Government he was universally esteemed, while the manner in which he discharged his various public functions, especially in the judicial line, earned for him a lasting reputation.

The late Mr. Thumboo Chetty has left a wife, four sons and three daughters. The sons are all employed in the Mysore Service, and all the daughters have been married. The funeral takes place this evening and, as arranged years ago, the interment will be in the Church of St. Francis Xavier, of which the deceased gentleman was a staunch and helpful member.

"THE DAILY POST."—21st June 1907.—The remains of the late Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty were interred yesterday evening at 6 o'clock in St. Francis Xavier's Church, St. John's Hill, with all the imposing ritual of the Roman Catholic Church. The funeral cortege from the house to the church was a long and densely packed one, nearly all those in Bangalore, European, Eurasian or Indian who were acquainted with or were personal friends of the deceased gentleman, attended at the house and accompanied the procession to the place of interment. The body was carried exposed on an elaborately adorned bier, and was preceded by a double row of choristers and acolytes bearing palm branches, crosses and other emblems of the Church. Behind these followed a large concourse of the clergy, representatives attending from all the R. C. Churches in the City and Station. On arrival at the church, the body was removed from the bier and laid in a zinc lined coffin, which was placed on a catafalque in the centre aisle of the church, the clergy and choristers chanting the *Miserere*. Father Servanton, the Parish Priest, next delivered a very brief but impressive funeral oration. He said there was no time to dilate at any length on all the good and virtuous qualities of the deceased, who was so well known to them. He would only say that the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty was an exemplary Christian who had served his Heavenly Master as faithfully as he had served his earthly masters—the Government and the Maharaja of Mysore,—who had rewarded him for his zeal and integrity by the rapid promotions he received in the service, to the head of which he rose. And even as it was said of the wise steward in the Bible, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," it could be said the same of their departed friend. Of the charities of the deceased to the church and the poor, he would say nothing as they were too well known already. In conclusion, Fr. Servanton exhorted his hearers to live as the deceased had done, so that when they came to die they would die like their late friend, a saintly death. The coffin was then carried to the grave, which was prepared

in the east wing of the church, and lowered, the burial service being performed by the Right Rev. Dr. Basle, Coadjutor Bishop of Mysore, assisted by several members of the Clergy. It was quite dark when the large crowds of mourners left the church.

Among the large number of those present we may mention the names of the Hon'ble Mr. A. Williams, I.C.S., Mr. K. Chandrasekhara Aiyar, Mr. J. Cook, Mr. H. J. Bhabha, Mr. C. Bala-sundram Iyer, Dr. P. S. Atchyuta Rao, Mr. G. Hume Wright, Mr. J. G. Tait, Mr. T. Leishman, Mr. B. Nagappa, Dr. A. Lehmann, Mr. M.G. Krishnaswami Rao, Mr. V.A. Rajaratna Mudaliar, Dr. Arumoo-ga Mudaliar, Miss R. Govinda Rajulu, Mr. Abdul Rahman Saib, Khan Bahadur, and Mr. A. Maigandadava Mudaliar, Rai Bahadur.

In the notice of the death of the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty, in yesterday's issue, we inadvertently referred to the deceased as having been received into the communion of the Roman Catholic Church about 40 years ago. We find that this is an error, for the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty was born of Catholic parents and the family have been Catholics for four generations. Another slight error crept into the report; we said the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty had left three daughters; we find that the deceased had four daughters.

On Mr. Justice P. S. Krishna Rao and Mr. Justice Chandrasekhara Aiyar taking their seats on the Chief Court Bench yesterday, Mr. L. Sreenivasa Iyengar, Advocate, informed their honours of the death of the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty. He spoke in feeling terms of the excellent qualities of the deceased gentleman, and referred to the brilliant services he had rendered to the State during his connection of 36 years in the Judicial Department, and the worthy manner in which he had presided over the Chief Court for nearly 12 years. He suggested that the Court be closed for the day as a mark of respect to their late learned Judge. Mr. Justice Krishna Rao heartily indorsed all that the learned Advocate had said, and, with the concurrence of his colleague on the Bench, adjourned the Court for the day.

The Public Offices of the Mysore Government in Bangalore were also closed for the same reason. H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore was informed of the death of the late Mr. Thumboo Chetty at noon yesterday, and late in the afternoon, H. H. sent back

the following message:— "His Highness the Maharaja having learnt with great regret of the death last night of Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., directs that all public offices in Bangalore be closed for the rest of the day as a mark of respect to the memory of this most distinguished officer."

The offices were accordingly closed after 4 p.m.

The Residency flag is flying half mast to-day as a mark of respect to the deceased.

THE MYSORE HERALD, *Monday, June 24th, 1907.*—It is with great sorrow that we announce the termination of the remarkable career of Raja Dharma Pravina Mr. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., the Grand Old Man of Mysore, on the night of the 19th instant. After a distinguished career in the Madras Presidency, he joined the Mysore Service as Head Sheristadar of the Judicial Commissioner's office and served the State for 33 years in various capacities. As a Judge and Chief Judge of the Chief Court, as Councillor of His Highness the Maharaja and as Dewan of Mysore, he served the State with justice, fairplay, loyalty and devotion to the throne unparalleled in the history of Mysore. Though a Christian, he was a real cosmopolitan, and though a Madrassce, he looked upon the people of Mysore as his own kith and kin. He was an embodiment of a well regulated conscience. He was looked upon with the highest respect by Their Highnesses the late and the present Maharajas and H. H. the Maharani, the late Regent. His independence was equalled by his uprightness and godliness of character. He commanded the respect of all classes of people. He was looked upon both as an official and a moral mentor by many. Mr. Thumboo Chettiar is gathered with his ancestors. We have to be sorry only for his physical death. Morally and spiritually he remains among us. The examples of justice and fairplay that he set while in and out of office will ever remain models for the imitation of people both officials and non-officials. Some-time ago, during the Regency period, one of the local papers was about to be ordered to be suppressed. He set his face against it. He said that construction and not destruction was his policy. He sent for the erring Editor. He argued with him, and he told him to publish an apology dignified to himself and respectful to the State. When Mr. Madhava Rao was elevated to the Dewanship of Mysore, he gave a friendly advice to him and said:—

- “The exercise of the gift of patronage is the rock upon which Native Statesmen invariably wreck their reputation. My interest in your welfare induces me to venture to give you a few ideas as to what you should do to maintain a title for statesmanship. In the selection of persons for posts of trust and responsibility and in making promotions, we should never be guided by kithship, kinship or friendship. We should look to merit and qualifications, and there alone. If we do so, not only those who are near and dear to us, but also those who do not know us and have no reason to love us will become the best of our friends and supporters.” This is what he had reduced to practice in his own life, and he gave it, such as it was, to Mr. Madhava Rao. The giver of this advice is gone, but the advice remains. This advice is one which cannot but appeal to the approbation of all disinterested rulers, officers and officials alike. There are numerous godly traits of the character of this gentleman, which, for want of space, we cannot enlarge upon here. We can, however, say that if an impartial verdict is to be given as to the place he deserves to occupy among the galaxy of the Native Statesmen who ruled over Mysore, we assign to him a place below Mr. Rangacharlu and Mr. Chentsal Rao—men who, like Mr. Chettiar, stood on the highest moral and intellectual pedestal. The celebration of Mr. Chettiar’s funeral went to show the great respect in which he was held. The funeral procession was a unique one. The Hon’ble Mr. A. Williams, the British Resident, and a large number of European and Native gentlemen honoured the procession with their presence. When the news of Mr. Chettiar’s death reached Mysore, H.H. the Maharaja and the Royal family were very deeply affected. All the schools, colleges, courts and other public institutions were closed as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Chettiar. His Highness the Maharaja sent the following message to Bangalore at once :—“ His Highness the Maharaja having learnt with great regret of the death last night of Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., directs that all public offices in Bangalore be closed for the rest of the day as a mark of respect to the memory of this most distinguished officer.” Mr. Chettiar lived to a good old age. All his sons are getting on very well, and there was nothing wanting to make him happy in the evening of his life, and he died a happy death. But with all that, the loss that his family and the public have sustained by his death is an irreparable one. He was looked upon as the nestor of Mysore, and it is a matter for great

regret that it is not possible to have one to whom the public can look up with the same respect with which they used to look up to our Raja Dharma Pravina. We offer our hearty condolence to the members of the Chettiar's family for their very sad bereavement.

THE BANGALORE BULLETIN, 20th June 1907.—A truly remarkable career closed last night, at about eleven o'clock, when Time, that inscrutable garner of mortality, claimed the life of Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., the well-known retired Officiating Dewan of Mysore. It had been popular report, since the day of his youngest son's marriage lately, that the deceased gentleman had been in failing health; but I do not suppose that many of his very numerous friends were aware that his illness was of anything more than a passing character. He has been so well known in the Mysore Service, and even since his retirement, that the intelligence of his death circulated through the Station much quicker than if a telephonic circular had been put around, and many have been the expressions of genuine regret at the passing of one who was a notable figure in the place. The late Mr. Thumboo Chettiar possessed a striking personality, and his manner was the soul of old-time politeness and courtesy, which the strenuous life of the present age is so quickly replacing by an abruptness of address and demeanour that is often painful to behold. He lived a frugal life, and, considering the humble beginnings of such a notable career, for he began life as 'Clerk No. 21' in the Madras Adjutant-General's Office, he was the pink of modesty and persevering withal in his profession.

His first appointment in the Judicial Service was as a clerk under that eminent lawyer, still a living authority on the Penal Code of India—Mr. John Dawson Mayne—with whom the deceased gentleman was in active, and even affectionate, correspondence till within a few weeks of his death. Under his influence Mr. Thumboo Chettiar was appointed a District Munsiff in the Bellary District and when Mr. J. R. Kindersley was Judicial Commissioner of Mysore he brought him in as his Judicial Sheristadar. He afterwards became Judicial Assistant, and then Head Sheristadar to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

All this happened in the sixties. Later on came the Rendition of Mysore, and we saw Mr. Thumboo Chetty elevated to the Bench of the Chief Court of Mysore, then to the Chief Judgeship of the

Province, on to the Senior Councillorship and, finally, as Officiating Dewan of Mysore more than once when the late Sir K. Seshadri Iyer took leave. And I think it was at one of these stages of his career that the honour of the Companionship of the Indian Empire was conferred upon him in recognition of the distinguished service he had rendered to the State by the British Government. H.H. the late Maharaja of Mysore also conferred upon him the Hindu title of 'Raja Dharma Pravina,' which being translated from Kanarese would be equivalent to the Biblical testimony of 'Well done ! thou good and faithful servant.' And no greater epitaph could be written on his tomb.

The deceased gentleman was a member of the Roman Catholic Church by birth, and so far as it was not incompatible with the tenets of this faith, he observed the caste from which his family originally sprang. The funeral takes place at 6 o'clock this evening ; the procession moving from ' Rugby Hall ' and the interment is to be made in St. Francis Xavier's Church, St John's Hill, where he has been a worshipper for very many years.

THE MYSORE STANDARD, 22nd June 1907.—We very much regret to announce the death of Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiar, C.I.E., which sad event occurred in Bangalore on Thursday noon, at his residence, ' Rugby Hall ' in the C. and M. Station. For some time past Mr. Chettiar was suffering from diabetes and carbuncle, and on Wednesday his condition took a turn for the worst. From the early hours on Thursday he began to slowly sink down, and breathed away at 2 p.m.

Mr. Chettiar, who is well known to the Mysore public, was born in the year 1837. Leaving school at the very young age of 18, he decided to take service, and on the 10th December 1855, after acquiring some training in a mercantile firm, he entered the Madras Public Service in the Military Department as a clerk. He rapidly rose from the position of clerk by dint of hard and good work to that of the Manager, and in 1862 became the Chief Assistant to the Legislative Secretary to the Madras Government, Mr. John Dawson Mayne. Under this eminent Barrister, who was also Professor of the Presidency Law College, he put in a three years' course, won the Law prize in 1865, and passed all the Madras Judicial tests. Shortly afterwards he was appointed Munsiff of Purghi in the Bellary District. On 1st February 1867 his services were transferred to

Mysore as Judicial Commissioner's Head Sheristadar. Mr. Chettiar's advent into Mysore was under very auspicious circumstances. The question of the Rendition was favourably settled and the country was being prepared for native administration. Being found capable, he was soon promoted to the graded ranks and was appointed in 1868 as a Small Cause Court Judge and as Assistant Commissioner in 1873. In May 1877 he became Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore and Coorg. During the terrible famine of 1876-79 he rendered great assistance to Colonel Tredway Clarke and performed arduous duties as a member of the Retrenchment Committee, which had to effect a reduction of ten lakhs of rupees on account of the heavy famine deficit. About the year 1880 he was appointed as District and Sessions Judge of the Nundidroog Division. This was a post generally held by European officers, known as Divisional Commissioners, and Mr. Chettiar was the first Indian to hold the post. This post he held for five years with credit, after which he was taken to the Chief Court as Second Judge and was appointed as Chief Judge in 1884, which post he held for twelve years till February 1895. On the date of rendition (18th March 1881) Mr. Chettiar was appointed *Ex-officio Member* of Council and continued as such for 25 years. He frequently acted as Dewan, and for the first time in 1887. In 1900 and 1901, during the last illness of Sir Seshadri Iyer, he acted as Dewan for a prolonged period and retired on the 18th March 1901, after serving the Mysore State for 34 years.

For his distinguished services he received from the British Government the Certificate of Honour and Delhi Medal in 1877 and the decoration of the Companion of the Eminent Order of the Indian Empire in 1895. From the Mysore Government he received the title of Raja Dharma Pravina in 1893. He was admitted by His Holiness Pope Leo XIII to the Order of *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* and was presented with the Pope's Jubilee Medal in 1892. Amidst his multifarious duties Mr. Chettiar made it convenient to lend his assistance and co-operation to many public and private institutions. As member of the Friend-in-Need Society, as President of Devaraja Bahadur Charity Fund and R. B. A. N. Charities, respectively, and of H.H. the Maharani's Girls' School, he rendered valuable services. He was for a long time *Ex-Officio* Inspector-General of Prisons, Jails and Lock-ups and showed a solicitous concern in their management. The Mysore Insurance Committee was receiving valuable advice at

his hands. During his long connection with the Mysore Government he was universally esteemed, while the manner in which he discharged his various public functions, especially in the Judicial line, earned for him a lasting reputation. At the time of his death the deceased was aged 70. He leaves behind him a wife, four sons and three daughters to mourn his loss. The sons are all employed in the Mysore Service and the daughters have all been married. In memory of the departed soul all the public offices in Bangalore were closed on Thursday.

The funeral took place on Thursday and was attended by a large number of officers including the British Resident, and messages of sympathy were received from every quarter. This indicates in what high respect the deceased gentleman was held in Mysore, and it may be said that at the present day there is not another officer whose death will be more regretfully viewed and of a more exemplary character whose life will be more happily remembered. Mr. Chettiar has done great service to the people of Mysore, always avoiding the factional and petty prejudices and always upholding the cause of truth and purity. He was the one man to whom people could look up for unprejudiced opinion, and he always tried to keep his head above the level of ordinary official life. He was not in his executive capacity found to be a very efficient and strong man of action. He had his weaknesses, which were due to the influences of his age and mental temperament; but as a Judge he was singularly successful, and his opinions were always safe and given with as impartial and cool-headed a calculation as possible. He was in no sense a man of action, but as a Councillor few will be found to take his rank for excellence of judgment. During the Civil Service fight he took the side of Mysoreans, and though himself a Madrassee, he generally upheld the cause of Mysoreans. In private life he was pure and free from any of the vices of his contemporaries. Though a Native Christian, his forms of life were more like those of a high class Hindu. He was a silent worker in giving private charities to the poor, and never sought the recognition of the public for his good work. He was scrupulously courteous in his treatment of men of all grades of life, and was rarely known to speak harshly or go out of temper even on provoking occasions. His tall and settled features were always a sign of peace and cool judgment, and his private virtues and official uprightness were admitted by all classes and castes of people. Mysore has lost in him a pure and

lofty personality, and few people there are now whose death will be as universally regretted and whose life as generally esteemed as his.

MADRAS MAIL, 21st June 1907.—THE LATE MR. T. R. THUMBOO CHETTY.—The funeral this evening of the late Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E., was a most imposing ceremony. In accordance with arrangements made years ago the body was interred in the Church of St. Francis Xavier, St. John's Hill, where the last resting-places for himself and his wife were purchased by the deceased. The funeral *cortege* was a long one and all Bangalore accompanied the bier from the house to the chapel, the Hon'ble Mr. A. Williams, the Resident, being present. The Right Rev. Dr. Basle, Co-adjutor Bishop of Mysore, conducted the service, and some forty priests of the church accompanied the procession. The Rev. Father Servanton delivered the funeral oration at the grave side extolling the estimable qualities of the deceased and his saintliness.

MADRAS MAIL, 24th June 1907.—THE CATHOLIC INDIAN ASSOCIATION.—A General Meeting of the Georgetown Branch of this Association was held yesterday in the compound of the Refuge Church, Broadway, under the Chairmanship of the Rev. Father Joseph, for the purpose of sympathising with Mrs. Thumboo Chetty and her family in the great loss sustained by them in the death of Mr. Thumboo Chetty, C.I.E. After a few introductory remarks from the Chair, Mr. V. A. Jagarayan, B.A., B.L., dwelt on the many sterling qualities of Mr. Thumboo Chetty and his varied activities, both in his official career and in all public movements.

THE BANGALORE BULLETIN, 21st June 1907.—The funeral of the late Mr. Thumboo Chettiar, which took place at 6 p. m. yesterday, presented a most unique spectacle. The remains were carried from 'Rugby Hall,' his residence on Promenade Road, in an open bier to St. Francis Xavier's Church, and the procession which followed was composed practically of every class of creed and person who had known him. In the church the body was transferred to a coffin and the interment took place amidst much solemnity. The service was performed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Basle of the Diocese, who had been a personal friend of the deceased gentleman for many years, and a funeral oration was delivered by the Rev. Fr. Servanton. A very large number of officers of the Mysore Service

attended the obsequies, and an exceedingly graceful and sympathetic act was noticeable in the presence of the Hon'ble Mr. Williams, the British Resident, at the graveside. All the Courts in the City, from the Chief Court downwards, were closed yesterday as a mark of respect.


THE DAILY POST, 27th June 1907.—TO THE EDITOR, "DAILY POST." SIR,—So much has of late been said in the public prints of the virtues and good qualities of the late Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chettyar, that I think I will be wanting in my duty were I, as Hony. Local Secretary of the National Indian Association, to omit to refer, however feebly, to the services he rendered to the cause of the Zenana Secular Home Education carried on in Bangalore in connection with the above Association in the latter eighties and early nineties of the last century. The deceased gentleman not only rendered every help in his power to promote the cause of female education, but when the late Miss E. A. Manning visited Bangalore, the reception which he accorded to the lady at 'Rugby Hall' and the speeches in English and Tamil read by the pupils of the Home Education classes will, I trust, be fresh in the memory of those European and Native Ladies and Gentlemen who attended the reception.

I may add that Miss Manning was very much pleased at the function and in a lengthy speech she made on the occasion, she thanked Mr. and Mrs. Thumboo Chettyar for the hospitable arrangements.

Yours, etc.,

C. KRISHNASWAMY MUDALIAR.

THE EXAMINER, 29th June 1907.—BANGALORE.—*Obituary.*—We regret to announce the death at his residence, 'Rugby Hall,' on the 20th instant from diabetes of Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thamboo Chettyar, C.I.E., late Officiating Dewan of Mysore. This announcement will be a great shock to many of his friends in Madras, of whom there are many. Mr. Thumboo Chettyar was for a long time Chief Justice of the Chief Court of Mysore and a member of the Council of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. He acted on many occasions as Dewan of Mysore, and the late Maharaja, His Highness Sri Chamarajendra Wadiyar Bahadur, sought the advice



of Mr. Thumboo Chettiyar invariably on matters connected with the State of Mysore. He was a staunch Catholic and rendered invaluable help to many Catholic Churches in Madras and Bangalore. He was always compassionate to those who were in distressed circumstances and gave them help and advice in time of need. In Madras the Catholic Church on Popham's Broadway, known as the 'Mother of Refuge Church,' received great help from him. He evinced a deep interest in the welfare of this church, and whenever in Madras he always made minute enquiries about the church and its parishioners. Many of his friends, both in Madras and elsewhere, will greatly feel the loss of Mr. T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiyar and the Catholic Indian community has lost a prominent member in him.—
C. W., June 21.

Extract from the Report of the President and Trustees of Rai Bahadur Dharma Ratnakara Arcot Narayanaswamy Mudaliar's Educational Institutions for the year 1907-08.

Last year it was our intention to hold such a distribution, but the hand of Fate was against us, in that we had the sad misfortune in June to lose our worthy President, Raja Dharma Pravina T. R. A. Thumboo Chettiyar, C. I. E., who had been President of the Committee of these Educational Institutions since their inception, and who had by his untiring interest, advice and encouragement, contributed in no small measure to their success. We have been desired by Rai Bahadur Arcot Narrainsawmy Mudaliar, the Founder of these schools to record in this report the great loss he has sustained in the death of Mr. Thumboo Chettiar, who was his lifelong friend, and to whose willing advice and active co-operation many of the Founder's charitable undertakings are entirely due.
